HUSBAND COOPER EUGENE RUSSELL JR

Born 17 MAR 1917 Place CLINTON IOWA

Chr. Place

Marr. 8 JAN 1940 Place HAMILTON, BUTLER CO. OHIO

Died Place

Bur. Place

HUSBAND'S FATHER COOPER EUGENE RUSSELL HUSBAND'S MOTHER FISHER LUCY STOKES

HUSBAND'S OTHER WIVES

WIFE GRACE MARY BESS

Born 24 JUNE 1920 Place HAMILTON BUTLER CO. OHIO

Chr. Place

Died Place

Bur. Place

WIFE'S FATHER GRACE CHARLES EDWARD WIFE'S MOTHER LUDWIG MARY ELIZABETH

WIFE'S OTHER HUSBANDS

SEX M F	CHILDREN List Each Child (Whether Living or Dead) in Order of Birth SURNAME (CAPITALIZED) GIVEN NAMES	WHEN BORN DAY	MONTH	YEAR	WHERE BORN TOWN	COUNTY	STATE OR COUNTRY	DATE OF FIRST MARRIAGE TO WHOM	WHEN DIED DAY	MONTH	YEAR
1 M	COOPER EUGENE RUSSELL III	5	NOV	1943	INDIANAPOLIS	MARION	IND.	12 DEC 1964 MASTEN PATRICIA ANN			
2 F	" JANICE LEE	2	DEC	1940	HAMILTON	BUTLER	OHIO	27 JULY 1958 LEAK ROBERT WAYNE			
3 F	" PATRICIA CARROLL	6	SEPT	1947	INDIANAPOLIS	MARION	IND.	25 MAY 1968 HOOTEN ROSCOE JACOB II			
4 M	" JOHN CHARLES	1	JULY	1949	LEBANON	BOONE	IND.	29 NOV 1969 WELCH SHARON KATHRYN			
5											
6											
7											
8											
9											
10											
11											

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

E.R. Cooper JR
RR #1 Box 214
NORTH SALEM IND. 46165

OTHER MARRIAGES

1) DIV. 1973

ENTER ALL DATA IN THIS ORDER: NAMES: WATSON, John Henry
DATES: 14 Apr 1794 PLACES: Sharon, Windsr, Vt

To indicate that a child is an ancestor of the family representative, place an "X" behind the number pertaining to that child.

FAMILY GROUP RECORD

© 1964 The Genealogical Society of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Inc.

HUSBAND COOPER EUGENE RUSSELL
Born 20 SEPT 1888 Place KANSAS CITY MO.
Chr. Place
Marr. 16 MAR 1910 Place EL PASO TEXAS
Died 9 APR 1959 Place
Bur. Place FAIRVIEW CEM. NORTH SALEM IND.
HUSBAND'S FATHER COOPER JOEL SANDERS HUSBAND'S MOTHER RILEY CHRISTINE
HUSBAND'S OTHER WIVES

WIFE FISHER LUCY STOKES
Born 29 MAY 1891 Place COLONA ILL.
Chr. Place
Died Place
Bur. Place
WIFE'S FATHER FISHER [redacted] JOHN WIFE'S MOTHER STOKES LETITHA Lorenda Pitts Swan
WIFE'S OTHER HUSBANDS

SEX M F	CHILDREN List Each Child (Whether Living or Dead) in Order of Birth SURNAME (CAPITALIZED) GIVEN NAMES	WHEN BORN DAY MONTH YEAR	WHERE BORN TOWN	COUNTY	STATE OR COUNTRY	DATE OF FIRST MARRIAGE TO WHOM	WHEN DIED DAY MONTH YEAR
1 F	COOPER LINNIE JEAN	5 JULY 1911	CLINTON	CLINTON	IOWA	12 JUNE 1940 CLAWSON ROBERT H.	
2 F	" NANCY JANE	1 APR 1914	"	"	"	22 AUG 1936 BIRDSONG GEORGE E.	
3 M	" EUGENE RUSSELL JR	17 MAR 1918	"	"	"	JAN 8 1940 GRACE MARY BESS	
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							

SOURCES OF INFORMATION
E.R. COOPER JR
RR #1 BOX 214
NORTH SALEM IND
46165

OTHER MARRIAGES

NAMES: WATSON, John Henry
PLACES: Sharon, Windsr, Vt
ENTER ALL DATA IN THIS ORDER:
DATES: 14 Apr 1794
To indicate that a child is an ancestor of the family representative, place an "X" behind the number pertaining to that child.

FAMILY GROUP RECORD

© 1964 The Genealogical Society of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Inc.

Cooper, James A.

J. A. COOPER

1913

Cooper, James A. Jr

Esarey History of Ind. +
Vigo Co - Vol. 3 p 238

ude bombing in Iraq

bombs were detonated around 10 a.m., an Iraqi police official said on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to release the information.

A Polish security guard, Bartosz Orzechowski, 29, died at the hospital a short time later, Poland's Interior Minister Wladyslaw Stasiak said during a news conference.

At least 11 people, including three security guards with the convoy, were also wounded in the attack in the Karradah neighborhood, police said.

The guards worked for Poland's Government Protection Office, which is responsible for the security of Polish officials in Iraq, said Dariusz Aleksandrowicz, the agency's spokesman.

a to disable main ility by year's end

North Korean leader Kim Jong Il held talks in the communist nation's capital of Pyongyang with South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun at the first summit between the two countries in seven years.

In Washington, President Bush hailed the nuclear deal and said it reflected the "common commitment" of the talks to shut down North Korea's atomic weapons program.

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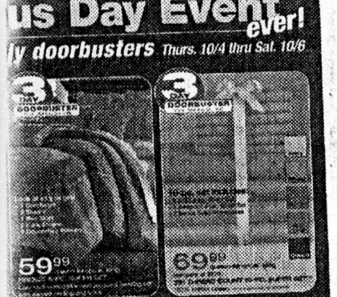

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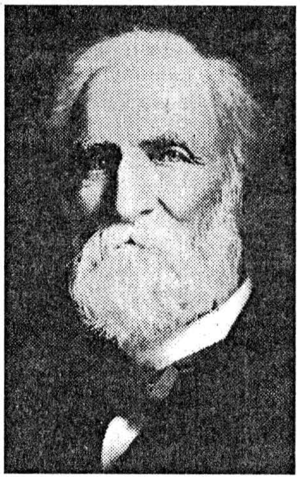
WABASH VALLEY PROFILES

A series of tributes to hometown heroes who have made a difference.

Dr. James A. Cooper



A native of Posey County, Ind., Dr. James Athenian Cooper was associated with the medical profession in Southern Indiana for more the seven decades.

The third son of John and Elizabeth (Ferguson) Cooper, he was born April 24, 1830, and educated in country schools near New Harmony. He had three brothers—Horatio, William and John—and one sister, Elizabeth. From 1845 through 1847, he attended Indiana University in Bloomington, then a one-building institution, when travel to and from school each quarter was accomplished by wagon and flat boat. He earned an M.D. from Evansville Medical College on March 15, 1850. After receiving his medical license, Dr. Cooper studied for three years under Dr. Mott in New Harmony. By saving money, he was able to travel to Europe, interning at hospitals in Paris, Vienna and Berlin. While in Naples, Italy, he wed Florence Owen, granddaughter of Robert Dale Owen, founder of the New Harmony community experiment, who was U.S. ambassador to Sicily. The couple had one son, Robert, who permanently settled in Posey County.

Prior to the Civil War, the Coopers moved to Springfield, Ill. James practiced there and in Salem, Ill., before returning to New Harmony to acquire farm acreage and establish a successful medical practice. He retired from active practice in 1875 to become a "gentleman farmer." Florence Cooper died young and Cooper soon married Emma W. Stewart of Washington, D.C., daughter of Dr. William Stewart, chief surgeon of the U.S. Army. The couple raised several children, including James A. Cooper Jr., a prominent Terre Haute lawyer and, from 1928 until his death, president of Terre Haute Trust Co.; John J., also a physician; Elizabeth Young (Turner); and Zella (Taylor). The family relocated to Terre Haute in 1888, where sister Elizabeth and her husband, Dr. Stephen J. Young, had been living since 1869. Initially Dr. Cooper resided at 120 S. Fifth St. and for a brief time maintained an office at 126 S. Sixth St. He continued to farm, acquiring additional acreage in Illinois and Minnesota.

Soon after the turn of the century, Cooper moved to 311 S. Fifth St. with his youngest daughter. Joining the Terre Haute Literary Society, he was a popular lecturer and after dinner speaker. One of the founders of the Open Forum of Terre Haute, he was a member of the American and Vigo County Medical societies. Active for many years in the Aesculapian Society of the Wabash Valley, Dr. Cooper was, before his death, the oldest member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in Indiana.

Dr. James A. Cooper died at Union Hospital after a short illness at age 94 on Nov. 24, 1924, soon after being recognized as the oldest known living alumnus of Indiana University. Before his death, he wrote "Memories of Indiana University, 1845-1847," which was published several years later in the *Indiana University Alumni Quarterly.*

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE

First Financial Bank

Always Close to Home

Terre Haute Tribune-Star Thursday Oct 4, 2007 p A6 - Cooper Family

Cooper Family

VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Jerry R.C. Cooper
P.O. Box 2
Lansing KS 66043

March 27, 1986

I am enclosing research reports listing the sources we checked for your ancestors. The only Vigo county sources mentioning James Cooper were the county histories. I do not believe any of the James Coopers in the county histories were your man. One was an early settler who died in 1855; one was a doctor, and one was a lawyer.

When we checked the 1880 census of Indiana, we found James and Lucy Cooper in Florida township, Parke county. That is just north of here. There was a Thomas Sale living near James Cooper and a William Sale living with him. I am enclosing a list of Parke county sources which we checked. We did not find anything which specifically mentioned James Cooper, but we did find other Coopers and Sales listed. Stephen Sale was an early settler in Parke county.

If you would like copies of the items mentioned on the research reports, our charge is 10¢ per page, plus postage.

You might also try writing the Rockville Public Library, 106 N. Market Street, Rockville IN 47872, and the Courthouse, Rockville IN.

Nancy Sherrill
Nancy Sherrill
Genealogy Librarian

P.O. Box 2
Lansing, Kansas
March 20,1986

Terre Haute Public Library
Terre Haute, Indiana

Dear Madame:

I am interested in collecting genealogical material on my family ancestry. I would appreciate any assistance that you could extend or suggest in obtaining any information on the family member listed. I am interested in obtaining a photocopy of a birth certificate for my grandfather, Mr. Oliver Perry Cooper.

Mr. Oliver Perry Cooper was born on 29 March,1876 at Terre Haute, Indiana to parents; (father) James ? Cooper
(mother) Lucy ? Sales, Cooper

I am also interested in obtaining copies of any and all pertinent documents that pertain to this family.

Thank You for your time and effort in this matter. Please note the enclosed SASE for your response.

Respectfully Yours:

Jerry R.C. Cooper

Jerry R.C.Cooper

JRC/sc

Pedigree of Rosamond Adline Cooper
Address 2301 N 13th St.
Terre Haute Ind.
Date April 15, 1971

References

Rosamond A Cooper
B 3/22/13
Pl Dugger Ind.
D
Pl
M
Pl
to

John Wm Cooper
B 12-22-1885
Pl Mackville Ind.
D 12-31-'49
Pl Terre Haute Ind.
M buried Hyland Lawn
Pl
to Sec. 17-0276

Carrie Florence Ross
B Oct. 9, 1891
Pl Newton, Ill Jasper Co.
D
Pl
M
Pl
to

Joseph Hinton Cooper
B May 22, 1841
Pl Monroe County Ind.
D Odon, Ind.
Pl buried Walnut Hill
M cemetery Odon.
Pl
to

Nancy Ann Burks
B apr. 2, 1842
Pl Ind.
D Feb. 1910
Pl Odon, Ind.
M Walnut Hill Cemetery

Robert James Ross
B 1847
Pl Va around Norfolk
D Aug. 1923 age 77
Pl Newton Ill.
M bur. River side
Pl cemetery Newton
to

Mariah Adelin Robards
B 1854
Pl Shoals Ind.
D March 14, 1922
Pl Newton Ill.
M Walnut Hill Cemetery
Newton, Ill.

John Cooper
B
PL
D
Pl
M
Pl
to

Rachel Lee
B
Pl

Wm Burks
B
Pl
D
Pl
M
Pl
to

Lewis
B

James Ross
B
Pl
D
Pl
M
Pl

McKinley
B
Pl

Leonard Robards
B
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to

Margaret McFarland

B
Pl
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Indexed 7/19/82

DARTMOUTH COLLEGE
HANOVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Department of English

JAMES F. BEARD, JR.

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE

26 July 1951

Librarian
Emeline Fairbanks Memorial Library
Terre Haute, Indiana

Dear Sir:

In preparing a check-list of letters to and from the American novelist, James Fenimore Cooper, I am seeking information about the locations and possible locations of manuscript letters or other manuscript materials by or pertaining to Cooper. His letters have become so widely scattered in this country and abroad that it has seemed desirable for me to survey the manuscript holdings in as many libraries, large and small, as I can.

I should like also, at this time, to inquire about manuscript letters or other manuscripts of the members of Cooper's family listed on the enclosed card.

I will be most grateful if, after checking your files, you will fill out and return the card enclosed for your convenience. A negative response would be useful to me in insuring the completeness of the survey, at least. A brief description of materials which you may have and suggestions about possible locations of Cooper materials elsewhere, in public or private collections, would be most welcome.

Thanking you in advance for your courtesy in this matter, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

James F. Beard, Jr.

James F. Beard, Jr.

Enc.

Cooper

HERNDON J. THOMPSON
Dept. 324
Davis, Oklahoma

June 17, 1943

City Libaary
Terre Haute, Ind.

Dear Sir or Madam:-

David Cooper was born in Terre Haute, about March 5th 1904, At the age of eight was entered into Glenn Orphanage or Home in Terre Haute. Name of Father, William Cooper, occupation Carpet Layer, mother Clara Cooper.

It will be appreciated much if you will refer to first and second city directories published following the year of 1904 and give me the listing for this family, that is father,mother and this son; also advise in particular if your directory give the age at the time directory was published.

I am trying to establish a birth record for this unfortunate fellow, whose services are needed in National Defense, and your cooperation will be much appreciated.

Very truly yours,
Herndon J. Thompson
Herndon J. Thompson

HJT/AHM.

1904 not in
1906 Wm. A. Cooper carpetlayer h 914 N 2d ST
T. H. Dir 1907 Wm Cooper carpetlyr Home Furniture & carpet co h 735 N 4th ST
1908 Wm A. Cooper carpetlyr Home Furniture & carpet co h 1423 Dexter Ave
Clara not found names of wives & children not given

1905 none pub

no evidence of birth day
n

C6451

Board of Childrens Guard. - Probation Office

Rt H.

David Cooper My 1, 1913 David & Wm C. aged 5 + 7 yrs
placed w, f + m Wm A + ~~C~~ Cooper at 226 N 6th St

other bls

My 3, 1913 - Wm + David Cooper 5 + 7 yrs placed w
f + m, Wm A Cooper + Clarah C Cooper 226 N 6th

Jan 7, 1915. David C aged 9 yrs returned to Glenn
H his parents from Indlps
Same day Wm David C ran away

Aug 3, 1919 - David C returned home to Glenn H
from Chic Ill

Aug 3, 1920 - D. C aged 15 yrs placed by state
agent in home of R. W. Gibbs R.R. Union Mills
Ind.

Call - Weinbach after 1906 -

Glenn H Je 4 1942 - David Fred Cooper

Camm David C bn April 13, 1905 ad mit to Glenn
Sept 14, 1912.

Served in navy - Jnd navy Jl 17, 1923

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Emeline Fairbanks Memorial Library
TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

MRS. SALLIE C. HUGHES
LIBRARIAN

Cooper

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE

June 21, 1943

Mr. Herndon J. Thompson
Dept. 324
Davis, Oklahoma

My dear Mr. Thompson,

Reply to your query in re David Cooper. The name William Or Wm. A. Cooper does not appear in our 1904 City directory.

The next issue of the directory was in 1906 in which is; Wm. A. Cooper, Carpetlayer, h917 N. 2d. St.

1907- Wm. Cooper " 735 N. 4th St.
1908- Wm. A. Cooper, " 1423 Sixth Ave.

Not in later directories.

The wife's name was not given in the directories at that time nor were the names of young children given.

I called the Probation Office at the Court House where the Board of Childrens' guardians records are kept.

Their records are as below:

May 3, 1913- Wm. & David Cooper aged 5 & 7 years placed with father and mother: Wm. A. & Clara L. Cooper, 226 N. 6th St.

Jan.7, 1915- David Cooper aged 9 years returned to Glenn Home from Indianapolis by his parents. Ran away same day.

Aug. 3, 1919- David Cooper returned to Glenn Home from Chicago, Ill.

Aug. 3, 1920- David Cooper aged 15 placed by state agent in home of R.W. Gibbs, R.R. Union Mills, Ind.

The Matron at Glenn Home says she received a letter from David Frederick Cooper, June 24, 1942. She gave him then the record there which gives April 13, 1905 as his birth date and Sept. 14,

Cooper

Emeline Fairbanks Memorial Library
TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

MRS. SALLIE C. HUGHES
LIBRARIAN

1912 as date of admittance to the home. She was unable to verify ~~that~~ birth date elsewhere and suggested that he apply to the Board of Statistics at Indianapolis in case he was not born in Terre Haute. The Matron had a record that he joined the Navy on July 17, 1923.

I hope these items will prove helpful in establishing the record required.

Very sincerely,

Assistant Librariam

VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

July 22, 1977

Miss Terry Lockwood
3660 SE Henderson
Portland, Oregon
97202

Dear Miss Lockwood:

I am afraid that you have not given me enough information about your great grandmother to be sure that anything I found would be about her. No births were required to be recorded before 1882, so no real birth certificate exists. Do you know her parents' names? It is possible to check the Census of 1850, which gives the names of all of the members of a household, their ages and birthplaces to show evidence of a birth. This would be too time-consuming, however, unless we could have some idea of the parent's names and the township where they lived.

Sometimes you can get some help by checking the index to the Census of 1840 for Indiana, as it indicates by page number, the location of a family, but there again, one must know the name. I am enclosing copies of pages from the 1840 Census index, and marriage records and death records, which include the name Cooper, in hope that it will be helpful.

Your local library could borrow the Census of Vigo County from the nearest branch of the regional archives, and you could check the census yourself.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth R. Merrill

Elizabeth R. Merrill
Local History Division

222 N. 7TH STREET, TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA 47807 • PHONE 812-232-5041 • TELETYPE 810-356-2100

3660 SE Henderson
Portland, Oregon
97202

Genealogy Department
Emaline Fairbanks Library
222 N. 7th St.
Terre Haute, Indiana 47807

Dear Sirs,

I was given your name by Janet Robinson of the Health Dept. for Vigo County. in hopes that you might help.

I am trying to complete my family records and would like to know how I may obtain a copy of my grate grandmother's (Elizabeth Ellen Cooper) birth certificate. She was born in Terre Haute in 1845. Any help you can give me would be deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,

Terry Lockwood

Cooper Family

VIGO
COUNTY
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

Mrs. Cuba H. Lyle
Box 43
Washington UT 84780

August 13, 1982

Thanks for the three 20¢ stamps to cover the library's expense.

I did not find any obituary for Louisa Cooper Geisler. I looked in both of Terre Haute's daily newspapers--the Gazette and Express , May 1-4, 1871. There was no Sunday, Apr. 30, 1871 paper. There are weekly editions, but these are mainly condensed from the daily papers.

I am sending you some Vigo County Cemetery Records. The one by Wilhoit and Eddy is more recent (an update). The Indiana State Library would not have better records.

I have not found the first names you mentioned listed anywhere. In Vol. 4 of Family Bible Records by D. J. Clark, pg. 68, I see information on the descendants of James Cooper, who died in 1855. They are buried in the Cooper Cemetery, which is on a low bluff overlooking Honey Creek. This is the one my great uncle, now deceased, took me to circa 1968. It is in the midst of a woods in Riley Township about six miles southeast of Terre Haute.

As far as the Geisler name is concerned, I am at a "dead-end." There were Geiserts and Geiselmans in Terre Haute, but I have yet to find any Geislers.

Write again if you wish additional information about the Coopers mentioned in Cemetery Records (Vigo Co.). We have maps that could be xeroxed pertaining to where Coopers owned land, etc.

Sincerely,
David N. Lewis
David N. Lewis
Special Collections Department

ONE LIBRARY SQUARE • TERRE HAUTE IN 47807 • PHONE 812-232-1113 • TELETYPE 810-356-2100

Washington, Utah
Aug. 5, 1982.

David N. Lewis - Spec. Coll. Dept.
Vigo Co. Public Library
One Library Square
Terre Haute, Ind. 47807.

MRS CUBA H LYLE
BOX 43
Washington UT 84780

Dear Mr. Lewis -

I appreciated your answer to the letter I'd written to the Hist. Soc. on my Cooper and Giesler (Geisler sp.?) families.

#1- On the obituary of Louisa Cooper Giesler (or Gei) who died 30 Apr. 1871 in Terre Haute - this was taken from the Troy Free Press (Linc. Co - Mo.) where her father, Walter S. Cooper was living at the time of her death. It merely shows from a Terre Haute newspaper -, and no place of burial. (I'm enclosing 50¢ for a different obituary & postage). 1 stamps).

#2- on her (Louisa's) father's family - Walter S. Cooper -

(a) 1 child died before 16 Aug. 1842 (between 1838 & 1842)
(The 1850 census shows the family in Harrison T'ship.)

(b) Walter's 1st w. d. 16 Aug 1842 - Frances - ardent member of Christian Church

(c) Walter's 2nd w. d. between 1853-or 4 & 1860 census - Amanda

d) Frances (child) b. ca Mar 1850 - died by " "

You mentioned an obscure Cooper cemetery you'd seen in 1968. Isn't that cemetery taken, and in the records you have? If not - where is it located and how can I obtain information on all Coopers in it?

Would Indianapolis have the same cemetery records as you?

Thanks, a great deal. - Mrs. Cuba Lyle.
(over)

The T.H. Daily Gazette May 1-4th X (No Sun. Apr. 30)

" " Express May 1 - 4 X

Cooper Family

VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Mrs. Cuba H. Lyle
Box 43
Washington UT 84780

July 26, 1982

Your letter that was addressed to the Vigo Co. Historical Society was given to us since the Society does not have a full-time librarian to do genealogical research.

You are inquiring about a Mrs. Louisa Cooper Geisler, who died in 1871.

I wonder why the obituary you have did not list the place of interment. Do you know which Terre Haute paper her obituary came from?

The facts that you mention all seem plausible enough; however, I can not add much to the solution of your genealogical problem.

You did mention the Rev. James Hill of Asbury Chapel M.E. Church. I have read something about him in the old Terre Haute newspapers. About 1873 he left the pastorate of Asbury Chapel and his family were given a few very valuable gifts in token of appreciation for their pastoral stay in Terre Haute. The Hills were highly respected.

However, I cannot find anything about Geislers that lived in Terre Haute. You stated that Mrs. Geisler lived at 2nd and Main at the time of her death (1871). That would have been across from the Vigo County Courthhouse and, at that time, in the center of Terre Haute's business district.

The closest cemetery would have been Woodlawn--slightly less than a mile away. However, I did not find the Geisler name listed in the Index to Lot Owners of Woodlawn nor in Vigo Co. Cemetery Records.

There are Coopers buried in Vigo Co.--indeed there is an obscure Cooper Cemetery as my great-uncle, now deceased, took me there about 1968. However, I am not able to find any record of Frances Wells Cooper or Amanda Parker Cooper. This includes checking our surname file and cemetery records.

If you would like, I could check May 1, 1871, Terre Haute newspapers to see if I could find a different obituary of Mrs. L. C. Geisler. Perhaps it might list the place of interment. If so, send 50¢ to cover cost of photocopying and postage.

Sincerely,
David N. Lewis
David N. Lewis
Special Collections Dept.

Mrs. Cuba H. Lyle
Box 43
Washington, UT 84780

Washington, Utah
July 15, 1982.

Vigo Co. Hist. Society
1411 So. 6th
Terre Haute, Indiana -

Dear Librarians (?)

My Louisa Cooper Geisler (widow of Captn. Julius G. who was killed in the Civil War and is buried at Little Rock, Ark. died in Terre Haute on Sun. - 30 Apr 1871 and was buried 1 May 1871. (from a newspaper "obit"). Rev. James Hill was the minister of the Asbury M.E. church who officiated (she'd evidently joined the church not too long before.

Louisa lived at Main and 2nd Street at time of her death. Do you have Terre Haute Cem. records? Do you have any idea of which older cemeteries of that time period would be closest to the above location? She had lost an infant son, Herman Geisler 2 Apr 1863 (he was b. 15 Jan. 1859). Are there Terre Haute City cemetery records for such a time-period?

I do appreciate your help - - if there's a charge, please advise.

Sincerely -
Mrs. Cuba Lyle

P.S. - Louisa's mother - Frances Wells Cooper who died in 1842 could be buried the same Cem. - also her stepmother - Amanda Parker Cooper who d. between 1850 & 1860 - . Headstones ?;

THOMAS J. COOPER
PARKE & VIGO COUNTIES
BY HAROLD COOPER

(W[illegible])

Thomas J Cooper
John N Cooper
B.D. Cooper
Ivan Cooper
Harold R Cooper
4691 NE 10th st
El Dorado, Ks 67042
316-320-2063

FACT! Thomas J Cooper
Born 1807 Ohio
Son John Born 1830

<!--StartFragment-->CENSUS YR: 1850 STATE or TERRITORY: IN COUNTY: Parke DIVISION: District No. 85 REEL NO 303b
REFERENCE: Enumerated by C. Noel on the 7th day of Sept 1850

LN	HN	FN	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	OCCUP.	VAL.	BIRTHPLACE	MRD.	SCH.
1	560	560	Laney	Elizabeth J.	22	F				Ind		
2	560	560	Smith	Robt J.	20	M		Farmer		Ind		
3	560	560	Creek	George	26	M		Waggon Maker		Ohio		
4	561	561	Kelo******	Jarret	26	M		Farmer		Ind		
5	561	561	Kelo******	John	68	M		Farmer		Md		
6	561	561	Kelo******	Thomas	35	M		Farmer		Ohio		
7	561	561	Kelo******	William	29	M		Farmer	400	Ind		
8	561	561	Kelo******	Harriet	20	F	1830			Ind		
9	561	561	Kelo******	Benj. D.	16	M	1834	Farmer		Ind		X
10	562	562	Ward	Hiram	21	M		Farmer		Ind		
11	562	562	Ward	Orrice	20	F				Ohio		
12	562	562	Ward	Harrieet A.	1	F				Ind		
13	562	562	Morgan	Josiah	9	M				Ohio		X
14	563	563	Kibby	Martha	48	F				Ten		
15	563	563	Kibby	Sarah	20	F				Ind		
16	563	563	Kibby	Martha	18	F				Ind		
17	563	563	Kibby	John	15	M		Farmer		Ind		X
18	563	563	Kibby	George	13	M				Ind		X
19	563	563	Kibby	Alexander	9	M	Birth			Ind		X
20	563	563	Kibby	Sophona	7	F				Ind		X
21	564	564	Cooper	Thomas J.	43	M	1807	Farmer	500	Ohio		
22	564	564	Cooper	Salinda	33	F	1817			NY		
23	564	564	Cooper	John	20	M	1830	Farmer		Ill		
24	564	564	Cooper	Jane	18	F	1832			Ill		
25	564	564	Cooper	Sally	15	M	1835	Farmer		Ill		
26	564	564	Cooper	Melton M.	13	M	1837			Ill		
27	564	564	Cooper	Mary A.	12	F	1838			Ill		
28	564	564	Cooper	Thomas	9	M	1841			Ill		
29	564	564	Cooper	Minerva	5	F	1845			Ill		
30	564	564	Lacen	Mariah	18	F				Ind		
31	564	564	Collins	Salina	73	F		<!--EndFragment-->		NY		

15 1822

[redacted]

House Number

Mary Ann

Pg 0298b.txt

Harold Cooper
4691 NE 10th
El Dorado, KS 67042
316-320-2063

Thomas
Selinda Gleason

Record of Marriages.

Be it remembered that on the 3rd day of October 1846 the following marriage license was issued to wit.

State of Indiana Parke County, sct. The State of Indiana, to any person empowered by law to solemnize marriages in said County Greeting. You are hereby duly authorized to join together, as husband and wife, Thomas Cooper and Selinda Gleason, and for so doing this shall be your sufficient license. In testimony whereof, I, John G. Davis, Clerk of the Circuit Court, in and for said county

1554 have hereunto set my hand, and affixed the seal of said court, at Rockville, this 3rd day of October, Anno Domini 1846.

John G. Davis Clerk.

State of Indiana, Parke County Sct. I, Johnson Webster a Preacher of the Gospel M.E.C. of the said County, do hereby certify that on the fifth day of October 1846 I joined together as husband and wife Thomas Coper and Selinda Gleason in pursuance of a license iſsued by the clerk of the Parke circuit Court bearing date third day of October AD. 1846 In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of October 1846

Johnson Webster

Recorded October 19th 1846.

Jno G. Davis clerk.

Be it remembered that on the 3rd day of October 1846 the following marriage license was issued to wit

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Parke County, Indiana   Twp. 15 North,   Range 8 West

James Driver	Parke Co., Indiana Mar. 27, 1824 W½SW¼ Sec. 31 80 #38-217
John Martin Laverty	Parke Co., Indiana Dec. 27, 1830 E½SE¼ Sec. 31 80
James McNutt	Parke Co., Indiana Feb. 20, 1839 N½ W½ SE¼ Sec. 31 40 #44-101
Jonathan Lewis	Parke Co., Indiana June 15, 1836 S½W½SE¼ Sec. 31 40 #102-252
John B. Webster	NE¼NE¼ Sec. 32 40 #15-446 Canal
Samuel Ross	SE¼NE¼ Sec. 32 40 8-23-50
Johnson Webster	Parke Co., Indiana Mar. 12, 1838 N½W½NE¼ Sec. 32 40
*— Thomas Cooper	Parke Co., Indiana Feb. 13, 1833 S½W½NE¼ Sec. 32 40 #8-23

Thomas has another 80 in Sec. 32

Trueman Blackmon	E½NW¼ Sec. 32 80 9-16-16 #92-63
Trueman Blackmon	W½NW¼ Sec. 32 80 9-16-16 #92-63
John Burson	Parke Co., Indiana May 4, 1821 W½SW¼ Sec. 32 80 #133-401
Johnston Webster	Parke Co., Indiana Mar. 2, 1838 N½W½SW¼ Sec. 32 40 #15-447
Samuel Ross	S½W½SW¼ Sec. 32 40 Aug. 23, 1850 Canal ~~#15-447~~
William Phillips	E½SE¼ Sec. 32 80 11-11-16 #55-393
William Phillips	W½SE¼ Sec. 32 80 11-11-16 #55-393

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Parke County, Indiana   Twp. 15 North,   Range 8 West

Thomas Woods	Parke Co., Indiana Oct. 3, 1834 E½NW¼ Sec. 33 80 #119-193
Robert Fisher	Parke Co., Indiana Nov. 25, 1834 N½W½NE¼ Sec. 33 40
Allen Edmonson	Sec. 33 40 11-11-53

Parke County, Indiana   Twp. 15 North,   Range 8 West

★ Bought in 1833 must have Soon lived there!

★ Thomas Woods	Parke Co., Indiana			Nov. 25, 1834	
	S½E½SE¼S frac	Sec. 28	40	#119-194	
Thomas Howell	Brown Co., Ohio			Jan. 8, 1833	
	N½W½SE¼S frac	Sec. 28	40		
Robert Fisher	Parke Co., Indiana			Nov. 25, 1834	
	S½W½SE¼S frac	Sec. 28	40		
Cyrus Romain	Parke Co., Indiana			Jan. 31, 1865	
	N½E½NE¼	Sec. 29	40	#24-367	Canal
Molly Gearhord	Parke Co., Indiana			June 4, 1836	
	S½E½NE¼	Sec. 29	40	#125-444	
Alexander McCune	Parke Co., Indiana			Nov. 9, 1837	
	N½W½NE¼	Sec. 29	40	#125-445	
Daniel Justus	Parke Co., Indiana			Aug. 5, 1834	
	S½W½NE¼	Sec. 29	40	#125-443	
Remember Blackman	E½NW¼	Sec. 29	80	10-16-16	#37-151
Remember Blackman	W½NW¼	Sec. 29	80	10-16-16	#37-151
Josiah Kibby	Parke Co., Indiana			Aug. 5, 1834	
	N½E½SW¼	Sec. 29	40		
Josiah Kibby	Parke Co., Indiana			Aug. 1834	
	S½E½SW¼	Sec. 29	40		
★ Thomas Cooper	Parke Co., Indiana			Nov. 7, 1833	
	W½SW¼	Sec. 29	80	#7-541	
Lewis Depew	Parke Co., Indiana			Aug. 13, 1841	
	N½E½SW¼	Sec. 29	40		
John B.	Parke Co., Indiana			Feb. 17, 1853	
	S½W½SW¼	Sec. 29	40	Canal	
Daniel & James Justus	Parke Co., Indiana			Oct. 26, 1822	
	W½SW¼	Sec. 29	80		

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Parke County, Indiana   Twp. 15 North,   Range 8 West

Daniel Varner	Parke Co., Indiana			June 18, 1838	
	N½E½NE¼	Sec. 30	40	#90-265	

This Day, towit, the 26 July 1826 Issued Marriage Licence to Thomas Cooper and Sally Woods

J.M. McLean

I hereby Certify that there was a marriage Solemnized between Thomas Cooper and Sally Woods the 27th Day of July 1826

Joseph Baird J.P.L.C.

[illegible]

[illegible]

GULICK & CO.

DRUGGISTS,

OFFER YOU

Perfumery, Toilet Soaps,
Brushes, Chamois, Sponges,
Cigars, Trusses, Combs,
Feather Dusters,
Thermometers,
PAINTS, OILS, GLASS,
Pure Whisky, Brandy and Wine.
Special Attention to Prescriptions.
OLD DRUG STAND.
Cor. Main and Fourth Streets.

LOEB!

The season is now fully here when it is imperative that everyone shall wear the fall hat. An old hat from this time on is in very bad taste and makes a person unpleasantly conspicuous. There is no excuse for not wearing the new styles. They are [illegible] and LOEB, CORNER OF FIFTH AND MAIN, is supplied.

Wanted Ladies to Know

the most desirable place in the city for [illegible] Shampooing, or [illegible] [illegible] street [illegible] private Tonsorial Parlor in the city.

[illegible] business.

Mrs. [illegible] and daughter May will go to St. Louis to-day.

Ex-Governor Baker, Mr. Hord and ex-Senator McDonald returned to Indianapolis this morning.

Mr. John Summit and wife have returned from Platte, Neb., and will make this city their home.

Mrs. S. B. Claypool and Mrs. S. B. Gookins, of Indianapolis, are the guests of Mrs. G. W. Faris.

Mr. Harry G. Thompson left for Washington night before last, where he will remain this winter, taking a course of medical lectures.

Col. R. G. Hervey will leave in a few days for Canada. At Toronto he will be joined by a party of Canadian friends and go up in the Kokomo country to the northwest of Georgian Bay on a moose hunting and fishing expedition.

Hon. J. E. McDonald, who is in the city as attorney in the Belt line case, sat quietly at a little desk in the circuit court yesterday taking notes of the argument being made by the opposing attorneys in the case. If the presidential bee is buzzing in the distinguished gentleman's bonnet, it certainly does not interfere with his devotion to the cause of his clients.

ANOTHER.

Ground Purchased for the Planing Mill Site.

The Express, a few days ago, made mention of Mr. J. F. Pierson, of Freedom, Ind., being in the city, looking for a location for an extensive planing mill. Mr. Pierson was so pleased that he determined to go no further. Yesterday he purchased of Ross Balue, the real estate agents, ground on south Canal street, near Rankin's planing mill, and will soon commence the erection of the mill. All new machinery will be put in, and the mill will be quite an extensive one. He will also engage in the general lumber business. A warm welcome is always extended to men who come here to join in building up the city, and Mr. Pierson can rest assured that he has the best wishes of every citizen of Terre Haute.

[illegible] giving no names, contains a grave and serious charge which might and did embrace any and all persons who had served as jurors in the Circuit and Superior courts of this county. We immediately issued a subpoena for Mr. Edwin Seldomridge, the editor and proprietor of said paper. Mr. Seldomridge acknowledged that he was the author of said article, and he could give no fact or countenance to support it or even tending to support it. Nor could he give to the grand jury the name of any witness whose testimony would show or tend to show that any juror had been bribed or offered a bribe. We deem it our duty both to the jurors who have served in our courts and to the public at large to report that said charge, so publicly made of the corruption of jurors, is without any evidence whatever to support it, and that the charge so made does gross injustice to our courts and the jurors serving therein. We know not what motive influenced Mr. Seldomridge in making a charge so serious and damaging to the character of all persons who have served as jurors in our courts, in view of his admission on oath that he knew no fact or circumstance that would sustain it.

G. F. COOKERLY, Foreman.

Death of an Old Resident.

At half-past one o'clock Thursday night, Thomas Cooper, an old citizen of Otter Creek township, died of Bright's disease. The deceased was born in Ross county, Ohio, November 12th, 1806. He removed to Indiana in 1825, and settled at Vincennes. He afterwards removed to Parke county, where he resided till 1860, when he removed to Otter Creek township. The funeral will take place at one o'clock this afternoon.

Sluggers at Work.

James Kane, a lightning rod agent from Sullivan, at present stopping at 615 south Six-and-a-half street, complained to the police yesterday, that while going to his boarding house Tuesday night and when near the corner of Oak and Six-and-a-half streets he was knocked down by two foot-pads and robbed of his pocket-book, containing

Grapes,

Pitted Cherries,

Cream Cheese, Smoked [illegible]
Corn, [illegible]
Sorghum Molasses, Pumpkin,
Young Chicken.

Sugars, Coffees, Teas,

All at the lowest rates,

No. 631 Main Street.

W. H. Gilbert will open his oyster parlors this evening.

James M. Dishon and no other
Goes forth in haste
With bills and paste,
And proclaims to all creation,
Men are wise who advertise,
In the present generation.

The Lancaster Block Coal Company

Have moved their office to

921 Main Street.

They are operating two mines at Brazil and the Lancaster Mines at Clay City of the best quality of block coal in the market. They also keep on hand,

HARD COAL,
NUT COAL,
SLACK AND WOOD,

all of which they sell in large or small quantities at the very lowest price and warrant satisfaction.

J. G. ADAMS, Agent.

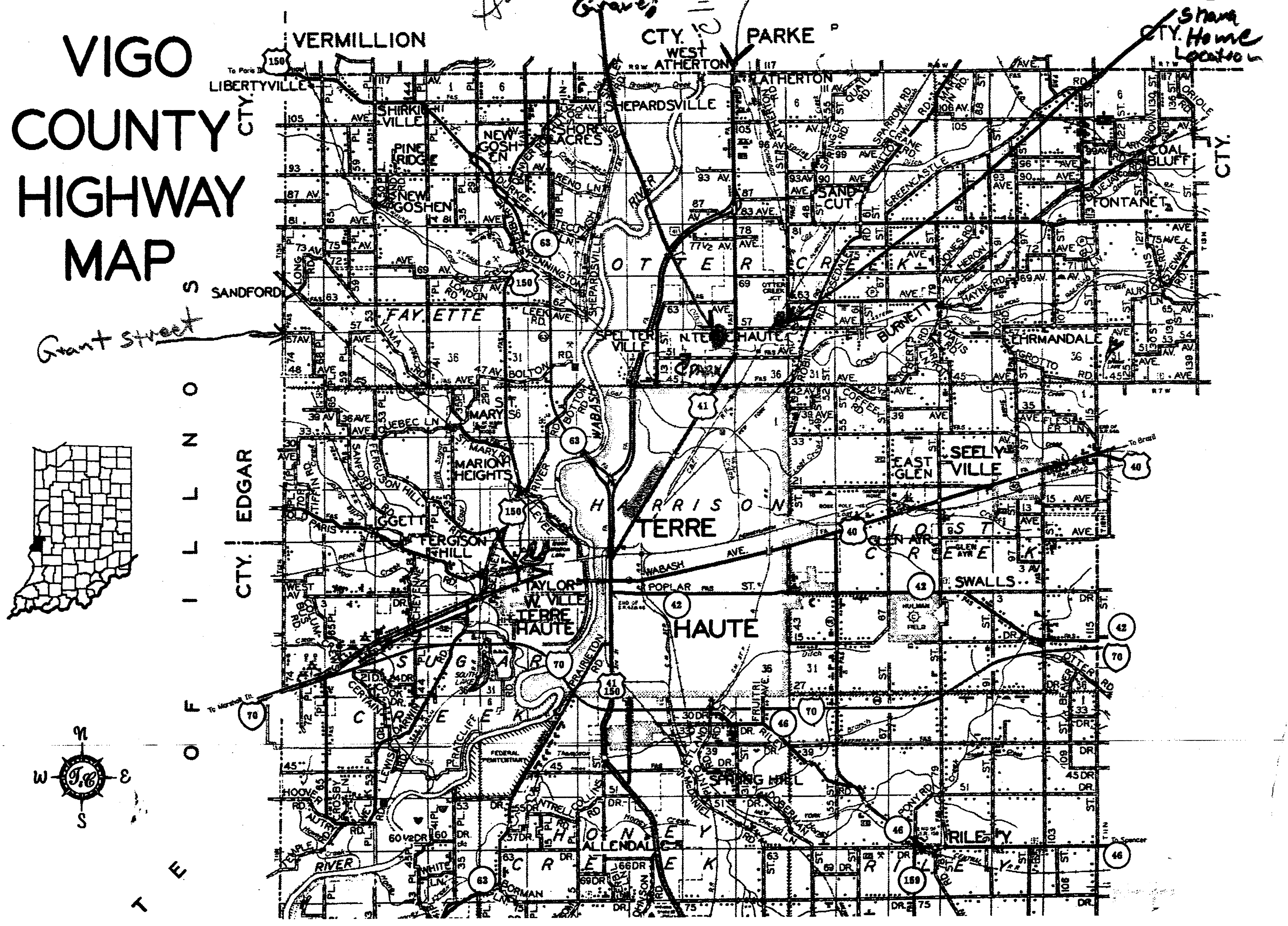
323 BANK ST., Brooklyn, N. Y.

I have been sick for several years with consumption. I tried many remedies and doctors. They were useless to help me, till I heard from Dr. H. F. Kremlen's Augsburg Stomach and Blood-purifying Drops and Bread Tea. After using several bottles and packages, I did get better, and I am well and healthy to-day, and therefore I recommend those remedies to all who are suffering like I was. ROSALIE FALCK.

GULICK & Co., Agents.

TerreHaute Express 9/29/83

VIGO COUNTY HIGHWAY MAP


VERMILLION CTY.
PARKE CTY.
CLAY CTY.
EDGAR CTY.
STATE OF ILLINOIS
LIBERTYVILLE
SHEPARDSVILLE
WEST ATHERTON
ATHERTON
SHIRKIEVILLE
PINE RIDGE
NEW GOSHEN
SHORE ACRES
SANDCUT
COAL BLUFF
FONTANET
SANDFORD
FAYETTE
OTTER CREEK
N. TERRE HAUTE
SPELTERVILLE
BURNETT
EHRMANDALE
ST. MARYS
MARION HEIGHTS
EAST GLEN
SEELYVILLE
HARRISON
TERRE HAUTE
LOST CREEK
GLEN AIR
FERGISON HILL
TAYLORVILLE
W. TERRE HAUTE
SWALLS
SUGAR CREEK
HULMAN FIELD
FEDERAL PENITENTIARY
SPRING HILL
PRAIRIETON
HONEY CREEK
ALLENDALE
RILEY
WABASH RIVER
N
W
E
S

7t Harrison

Thomas J² Shane Grave!

CLINTON

Clinton Street

Thomas E Shane Home Location

Grant Street

This Day, towit, the 26 July 1826 Issued Marriage Licence to Thomas Cooper and Sally Woods

J. M. McLean

I hereby Certify that there was a marriage Solemnized between Thomas Cooper and Sally Woods the 27th Day of July 1826

Joseph Baird J.P.L.C.

ORTH CEMETERY

Park Street

on Clinton Street

This cemetery is ~~one miles~~ 1/2 miles north of North Terre Haute, Vigo County, Otter Creek Township. It is on private property, but easily accessible from Route 41 on the west side of the road. It is in good condition. It is, also, known as the Otter Creek Union Cemetery. At one time there was a church, but it is long gone, and a home is now located there. The cemetery is behind this home.

NAME	BIRTH	DEATH
ALLEN,		
Margaret,	64yrs.	Jan.11,1858
Soloman,	Aug.10,1735	July 12,1866
BABBITT,		
Fred,	87yrs	Apr. 1860
Samuel,	55yr 5da	Apr.1,1853
BAKER,		
Thomas W.	64yrs	Aug.12,1856
BARNES,		
Charles A.	1866	1881
Charles, son of AT & EA, Born Hamilton Co. Ohio, 15yrs 8m 26d		
	July 27,1865	Apr.23,1881
* W.G. Co. G 85th Ind. Inf.	No Dates	
BARTLETT,		
William	4 2yrs	Apr.12,1881
BROTHERTON,		
Abel,	73yrs (77yrs) 7m 11d	Apr.21,1850
James, S.	50yr 3m 23d	Apr.20,1869
John, son of R & R	13mo 6da	Mar.30,1855
Rachel E. wife of RW	28yr 20da	May 19,1858
Sarah wife of Abel	59yr 6da	May 11,1859
Sarah E. dau of RW & RE	4mo 19da	July 10,1856
BROWN,		
Daniel,	Mar.12,1817	Oct.20,1892
Eli,	63yrs	July 22,1854
Jane	Jan.25,1839	Feb.4,1884
Kezia,	July 15,1825	Nov.13,1856
Mary A.	Mar.9,1854	Apr.6,1857
BROWNING,		
John,	64yrs	Sept.21,1840
John L.	64yrs	21,1840
Sarah, wife of John L.	Broken stone	Apr.3,1858
CARTER,		
Sarah Elizabeth,	Dec.3,1837	June 4,1906
COOPER,		
Sarah, wife of T.	73yrs 3mo	May 2,1889
T. Inscriptions unreadable	....	....
COPPAGE,		
Edwin F.	Jan.6,1836	May 22,1903
GARTRELL,		
Angeline, dau of S & M	18yrs	Oct.25,1851

Thomas T Cooper

Husband: THOMAS J COOPER

Born: November 12, 1806 in: OHIO
Married: in:
Died: ~~November 27,~~ 1883 in:
Father: Sept
Mother:
Other Spouses: , Selinda

Wife: SARAH PERRY Whitman

Born: 1816 in: MARYLAND , Baltimore
Died: May 02, 1889 in: VIGO Co IND
Father:
Mother:
Other Spouses: Whitman

CHILDREN

1 F
Name: ROSELLA COOPER
Born: August 16, 1853 in: MECCA IND
Married: January 20, 1876 in: VIGO Co IND
Died: December 28, 1917 in: VIGO Co IND
Spouse: CHESTER G NIECE

2 M
Name: CHARLES A COOPER
Born: August 16, 1853 in: MECCA IND
Married: in:
Died: September 04, 1853 in:
Spouse:

3 M
Name: JOSEPH A COOPER
Born: December 10, 1855 in:
Married: in:
Died: October 03, 1856 in:
Spouse:

4 F
Name: LUCY ~~COOPER~~ Whitman
Born: 1844 in:
Married: in:
Died: in:
Spouse: JACOB STRUM ORTH

5 F
Name: ~~ADALINE COOPER~~
Born: Caroline Whitman in: ROCKVILLE IND
Married: in:
Died: in:
Spouse:

6 F
Name: MARY ANN COOPER
Born: in: EFFINGHAM IND Ill.
Married: in:
Died: in:
Spouse: DAVIS

7
Name:
Born: in:
Married: in:
Died: in:
Spouse:

8
Name:
Born: in:
Married: in:
Died: in:
Spouse:

1882 Application required for marriages

Reel No 164 Pg.0298b.TXT

<!--StartFragment-->CENSUS YR: 1850 STATE or TERRITORY: IN COUNTY: Parke DIVISion;
REFERENCE: Enumerated by C. Noel on the 7th day of Sept 1850 District No. 85

LN	HN	FN	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	OCCUP.	VAL.
1	560	560	Laney	Elizabeth J.	22	F			
2	560	560	Smith	Robt J.	20	M		Farmer	
3	560	560	Creek	George	26	M		Waggon Maker	
4	561	561	Kelo******	Jarret	26	M		Farmer	
5	561	561	Kelo******	John	68	M		Farmer	
6	561	561	Kelo******	Thomas	35	M		Farmer	
7	561	561	Kelo******	William	29	M		Farmer	400
8	561	561	Kelo******	Harriet	20	F			
9	561	561	Kelo******	Benj. D.	16	M		Farmer	
10	562	562	Ward	Hiram	21	M		Farmer	
11	562	562	Ward	Orrice	20	F			
12	562	562	Ward	Harrieet A.	1	F			
13	562	562	Morgan	Josiah	9	M			
14	563	563	Kibby	Martha	48	F			
15	563	563	Kibby	Sarah	20	F			
16	563	563	Kibby	Martha	18	F			
17	563	563	Kibby	John	15	M		Farmer	
18	563	563	Kibby	George	13	M			
19	563	563	Kibby	Alexander	9	M			
20	563	563	Kibby	Sophona	7	F			
21	564	564	Cooper	Thomas J.	43	M	-1807	Farmer	500
22	564	564	Cooper	Salinda	33	F	-1817		
23	564	564	Cooper	John 1830	20	M	-1830	Farmer	
24	564	564	Cooper	Jane 1832	18	F	-1832		
25	564	564	Cooper	Sally 1835	15	M	-1835	Farmer	
26	564	564	Cooper	Melton M. 1837	13	M	-1837		
27	564	564	Cooper	Mary A. 1838	12	F	-1838		
28	564	564	Cooper	Thomas 1841	9	M	-1841		
29	564	564	Cooper	Minerva 1845	5	F	-1845		
30	564	564	Lacen	Mariah	18	F			
31	564	564	Collins	Salina	73	F			
32	565	565	Bryant	Jackson	30	M		Farmer	
33	565	565	Bryant	Rebecca	35	F			
34	565	565	Bryant	Edward	17	M			
35	565	565	Bryant	Mary J.	12	F			
36	565	565	Bryant	Francis	9	F			
37	565	565	Bryant	Louisa	1	F			
38	565	565	Lafferty	James	61	M		Farmer	
39	565	565	Lafferty	James H.	6	M			
40	565	565	Lafferty	Mary A.	4	F			
41	566	566	Bryant	Robinson A.	23	M		Farmer	
42	566	566	Bryant	Mary A.	25	F			

1850 Census

30
28
25
23
22
19
15

CENSUS YR: 1850 STATE or TERRITORY: IN COUNTY: Parke DIVISION: District No. 8
REFERENCE: Enumerated by C. Noel on the 9th day of Sept 1850

LN HN FN LAST NAME FIRST <!--EndFragment-->

John C Willoughby ✓ and Eva Ellen Mayne	Indiana to wit Vigo county This certifies that I joined in marriage as husband and wife John C Willoughby and Eva Ellen Mayne on the 17 day of October 1852 Thomas Dowes J Justice of the peace
William R Pointer ✓ and Mary ann Bilbee	Indiana to wit Vigo county This Certifies that I joined in marriage as husband and wife William R Pointer and Mary ann Bilbee on the 7 day of Decr 1852 J. M. Ray J Peace
Shara Thos J Cooper ✓ and Sally Ann Withrum 4 NOV 1852 ?	Indiana to wit Vigo Couty This Certifies that I joined in marriage as husband and wife Thomas J Cooper and Shally Ann Withrum on the fourth day of November 1852 Enoch Ward M G
John Sums ✓ and Ellen Young	Indiana to wit Vigo County, This certifies that I joined in marriage as husband and wife John Sums & Ellen Young on the 11 day of Oct 185 James W Williams M G

Cooper Family

Cooper

OUR
COOPER
FAMILY
HISTORY

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I started researching our family's history in 1980; and started working on this project in 2004. I want to acknowledge these people for getting me started and helping me along the way. They have either given me information about our ancestors, or helped me in some other way.

TERRY WOODWARD
JOY CROMBIE, COOPER & BENNIE COOPER
MABLE COOPER, WHITESELL & ARTHUR WHITESELL
THOMAS COOPER & HIS DAUGHTER PEGGY COOPER, BRYANT
HELEN MEAD, COOPER
NORMA STEVENS, COOPER
JANET COOPER, THOMPSON
LUCILLE COOPER, NIECE
WILLIS E. "GENE" COOPER
MELINDA LOCKARD

I also want to thank all of my siblings, cousins, and their families, who have participated in this project.

DORENE COOPER, COOPER
DONNA COOPER, BOATMAN
CAROLYN COOPER, MYERS
KENNETH "KENNY" or "BOBBY" VERMILLION
JEANETTA "JAN" HUFF, FRAZIER
SANDRA "SANDY" GEORGE
JAMES "JIMMY" GEORGE
VALERIE NIECE, STAPLETON
WANDA COOPER, LAWSON
JANICE COOPER, BEASLEY
WAYNE COOPER
THERESA "TIPPY" COOPER, WALTERS
MICHAEL "MIKE" COOPER
MELISSA "LISSA" COOPER, GOFF
PATRICIA "PATTY" MESAEH, RAY
CYNTHIA "CINDY" MESAEH, CUTTER
"PENNY LYNN" MESAEH, SMITH

I also want to acknowledge these people for submitting information about our ancestors to the Internet.

TOM HUNT
AMY GIVENS, ESTES
LYNDA CRABILL
DEAN LUNSFORD

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PART I
ANCESTORS OF REBECCA McCOY

According to some sources, including the Internet, everyone named in this section is an ancestor of Rebecca McCoy, who married Abner C. Cooper. However, some of these individuals have not been confirmed to be her ancestors. But, I have been able to confirm that Willis McCoy II and Holland Daugherty were her parents; and, Willis McCoy I and his wife Kesiah were her grandparents.

THE TAYLOR FAMILY

Abraham Taylor Sr. was born around 1661. When he was about twenty-four years old, he married a girl named Jane. Their marriage took place in the colony of Virginia, around 1685. Their son Abraham Taylor Jr. was born that year also, possibly there.

Abraham Taylor Jr. married Dinah White when he was about twenty-three years old. Their marriage took place around 1708 in an area that would later be named Baltimore County, Maryland. Their son Robert Taylor was born on October 13, 1709. His birthplace was more than likely in the area where they were married.

Abraham Taylor Jr. died in 1751. He was about sixty-six years old. I don't know when Dinah White, Taylor died; or, where she and Abraham were buried.

When Robert Taylor was about twenty years old, he married a girl named Catherine. Their marriage took place around 1729, possibly in the same place as his parents; or possibly in an area later named Craven County, North Carolina. Their son Moses was born that same year, possibly in either of those places.

Robert Taylor died April 15, 1780. He was about seventy-one years old. I don't know when Catherine Taylor died; or, where she and Robert were buried.

Moses Taylor married Elizabeth Prevatte when he was about thirty years old. She was only fifteen. Elizabeth was born around 1744. She was the daughter of Peter and Elizabeth Prevatte.

Moses and Elizabeth's marriage took place around 1759, in an area later named New Bern, North Carolina in Craven County. Their daughter Mary was born around 1760, probably in New Bern.

Moses was a plantation owner. He died around 1819, in Craven County, North Carolina. He was about ninety years old. Elizabeth had been his widow for fourteen years, when she died in 1833. Her death took place in Warren County, Kentucky. I don't know when she moved to Kentucky; or, whom she lived with when she died.

THE DAUGHERTY FAMILY

Mary Taylor married Owen Daugherty Jr. when she was fifteen years old, and Owen was about fifty-five; which means he was older than her parents. He was born around 1720, possibly in Ireland. However, some sources indicate that he was born in Craven County, North Carolina, or at least the area that would later have that name.

Mary and Owen's marriage took place around 1775, possibly in the same area. Their daughter Holland was born on April 6, 1775. Her birthplace was probably there also.

Holland was only ten years old, when her father Owen Daugherty Jr. died in 1785. He was sixty-five years old. I don't know when Mary Taylor, Daugherty died, or where she and Owen were buried.

THE McCOY FAMILY

Holland Daugherty married Willis McCoy II on December 9, 1795. She was twenty-one years old and he was about twenty-seven. Their marriage took place in New Bern, North Carolina; which is in Craven County. Willis was born in that area in 1768 to Willis McCoy I, and his wife Kesiah.

> **Willis McCoy I was born between 1732 and 1735. His birthplace may have been in Scotland. He was more than likely the first McCoy, in our family, to immigrate to America. His wife Kesiah was born around 1737, possibly in the area later named Craven County, North Carolina. They were married around 1753, possibly in the same area. They had nine children between 1756 and 1772. These are the names of those children: William, Edward, Sarah, Betsy, Delaney, Kesiah, John, Hardy and Willis McCoy II.**
>
> **Around 1801, Willis McCoy I died in Craven County. He was between sixty-six and sixty-nine years old. I don't know when Kesiah died, or where she and Willis were buried.**

Willis McCoy II and his wife Holland were living in Craven County when their daughter Rebecca McCoy was born in 1796 or 1797. He was a farmer, or plantation owner, in North Carolina; and I believe that most of their children were born in North Carolina. According to one source, he owned a farm in Virginia, but I don't know when he and his family moved there from North Carolina. This source also indicates that he sold his farm in Virginia around 1812; and, moved his family to Butler County, Kentucky.

While Willis II and his family lived in Kentucky, he owned several slaves; and by 1850, he was a prosperous farmer, or plantation owner. He died in Butler County on April 8, 1850; and he was buried on the Friday Mahugh farm, in Butler County. His land, personal property and slaves were divided among his heirs.

A list of the slaves, owned by Willis McCoy II, can be found among the documents pertaining to his estate. The name of each slave is listed; along with the monetary valued placed upon them. Among the names, were those of two young boys, Caleb and Hiram; whose ages were seven and twelve years. The two of them were grouped together in one *lot*. In 1850, Rebecca McCoy, Cooper and her husband Abner C. Cooper inherited that lot.

I take no pleasure in writing about this nasty, humiliating, part of our family history. I could have left this information out of this history; but then it wouldn't be an accurate history, would it?

Ancestors of Rebecca McCoy

Chart no. 1

No. 1 on this chart is the same as no. 1 on chart no. 1

1 **Rebecca McCoy**
b. 11 Oct 1796 or 1797
p. Craven Co., NC
m. 7 Oct 1813
p. Logan, Butler Co., KY
d. 24 Jan 1879 (or Jun 24)
p. Clark Co., IL
sp. Abner C. Cooper

2 **Willis McCoy II**
b. 1768
p. New Bern, Craven Co., NC
m. 9 Dec 1795
p. New Bern, Craven Co., NC
d. 8 Apr 1850
p. Butler Co., KY

3 **Holland Daugherty**
b. 6 Apr 1775
p. ? Craven Co. ?, NC
d. 17 Aug 1863
p. Butler Co., KY

4 **Willis McCoy I**
b. 1732-1735
p.
m. 1753
p. ? Craven Co. ?, NC
d. 1801
p. Craven Co., NC

5 **Kesiah Unknown**
b. <1737>
p. ? Craven Co. ?, NC
d.
p.

6 **Owen Daugherty Jr.**
b. 1720
p. ? Ireland or Craven Co., NC ?
m. 1775
p.
d. 1785
p.

7 **Mary Taylor**
b. 1760
p. ? New Bern?, Craven Co., NC
d.
p.

8
b.
p.
m.
p.
d.
p.

9
b.
p.
d.
p.

10
b.
p.
m.
p.
d.
p.

11
b.
p.
d.
p.

12 **Owen Daugherty Sr.**
b.
p.
m.
p.
d.
p.

13 **Unknown Mother**
b.
p.
d.
p.

14 **Moses Taylor**
b. 1729
p. ? Craven Co., NC
m. 1759
p. New Bern, Craven Co., NC
d. 1819
p. Craven Co., NC

15 **Elizabeth Prevatte**
b. 1744
p.
d. 1833
p. Warren Co., KY

Ancestors of Rebecca McCoy

Chart no. 2

No. 1 on this chart is the same as no. 14 on chart no. 1

1 **Moses Taylor**
b. 1729
p. ? Craven Co., NC
m. 1759
p. New Bern, Craven Co., NC
d. 1819
p. Craven Co., NC
sp. Elizabeth Prevatte

2 **Robert Taylor**
b. 13 Oct 1709
p. ? Baltimore Co., MD ?
m. 1729
p. Baltimore Co, MD
d. 15 Apr 1780
p.

3 **Catherine Unknown**
b.
p.
d.
p.

4 **Abraham Taylor Jr.**
b. 1685
p. ? Virginia ?
m. 1708
p. Baltimore Co., MD
d. 1751
p.

5 **Dinah White**
b.
p.
d.
p.

6
b.
p.
m.
p.
d.
p.

7
b.
p.
d.
p.

8 **Abraham Taylor Senior**
b. 1661
p.
m. 1685
p. Virginia
d.
p.

9 **Jane Unknown**
b.
p.
d.
p.

10
b.
p.
m.
p.
d.
p.

11
b.
p.
d.
p.

12
b.
p.
m.
p.
d.
p.

13
b.
p.
d.
p.

14
b.
p.
m.
p.
d.
p.

15
b.
p.
d.
p.

PART II
ANCESTORS OF ABNER C. COOPER

Some sources, including the Internet, indicate that the persons named in this section are the ancestors of Abner C. Cooper. I believe that there is sufficient evidence to support these claims. However, I can't say that this information has been confirmed. Some dates and places, pertaining to the lives of these people, may not be exact.

MARCOME COOPER & SARAH COOPER

Marcome Cooper was born around 1699 in Warwickshire, England. He may have been the first of our Cooper ancestors to immigrate to America. It is thought that they came to America to be fur trappers and traders.

Around 1725, when Marcome was about twenty-six years old, he married a girl named Sarah. Their marriage may have taken place in Warwickshire. However, some sources indicate that they were married in the colony of Virginia or in the area that is now named Spartanburg, South Carolina. I don't know when or where they died, or where they are buried.

DAVID D. COOPER & ELIZABETH WILDER, COOPER

Marcome and Sarah's son, David D. Cooper, was born around 1725. His birthplace may have been in Warwickshire, England also. He, instead of his father, may have been the first to immigrate to America. However, some sources indicate that he may have been born in the colony of Virginia or the area now named Spartanburg, South Carolina.

David married Elizabeth Wilder sometime between 1747 and 1751. Their marriage may have taken place in the colony of Virginia; or in the areas now named Wake County, North Carolina or Spartanburg, South Carolina. What ever the case may be, that marriage was very fruitful. They had eleven, or twelve children by 1773; one of which did not survive. I think some of their children were born in the area now named Wake County, North Carolina; and others were born in the area now named Spartanburg, South Carolina.

These are the names of nine of their children: Rebah (Rehab), Marcum (Marcom, Marcome), William, Charity, Malichi (Malichia, Maliki), Orphas (Orpha, Orpah), Elizabeth, Edward and John Cotten Cooper. We are John's descendants. The child that didn't survive was unnamed; and the other two names were Barome and Sion. I think they could actually have been the same person.

At some point, David and Elizabeth moved to an area on Thicketty Creek. Their daughter, Orphas and her family moved to that area sometime before 1790.

David D. Cooper was in his sixties when he died in Spartanburg, South Carolina around March 17, 1792. His will was drawn up and signed on that day. According to the will, he owned a fair amount of personal property, livestock, horses, and one slave.

In the will, the female slave is referred to as "one Negro woman named Pal." David gave her to his wife Elizabeth. He also gave Elizabeth: one feather bed and furniture (here furniture means the bed frame and headboard), one gray mare and colt, two cows and calves, household furniture and kitchen furniture.

David also declares, "If there is a right obtained for the land on which I now dwell, to me or my heirs, that my wife shall have her dwelling on that all the days of her life; and at her decease, all that remains of the *lent property unto my wife*, shall be equally divided between my son Edward Cooper and my daughter Elizabeth Cooper."

David's wife Elizabeth wasn't entitled to this property after David died. I assume, at that time, there was no "community property: law for widows; the husband was considered the sole owner of the property.

This is how David's other possessions were distributed among his children: He gave Rebah one feather bed and furniture, one white horse, two cows and calves, one heifer and one Iron Pot, which he had already "intrusted-her with at her marriage." Marcum was to have three head of sheep, which he already had. That was all he was to have from his father's estate. Marcum evidently was not the favorite child! William was to receive one feather bed and furniture, one gray mare, and two cows and calves, which he already had. David gave our forefather, John, one feather bed and furniture, two cows and calves, a heifer, and one bay mare, which he already had. Charity received one feather bed and furniture and one cow, which she already had. Orphas would get one feather bed and furniture and two cows and one calf, which she already had. Sion was given one bay horse, bridle and saddle, which he already had; two cows and two calves, which he recently received; and two heifers, which he was to receive. (Barome is not mentioned in this will; but I believe that he and Sion may have been the same person.) Malichi received one bay horse with bridle and saddle; and a rifle, which he already had. David's daughter Elizabeth was given one black mare, one feather bed and furniture, two cows and calves, and one flax wheel. Remember, after their mother dies, she would also divide equally with her brother Edward, "all that remains of the *lent property*" that their mother had.

Edward would also receive one feather bed and furniture, three young horses, two cows and calves, one rifle and some money. The "13 pounds, seven shillings Virginia money" he was to receive, was in the hands of John Cooper. Evidently Edward and Elizabeth were David's favorite children.

David appointed Malichi to be the executor of his will. He also revoked and made void, all other former signed wills, and bequests made by him. He acknowledged this to be his last will and testament published, announced, ratified and confirmed. The will was signed, sealed and acknowledged on the seventeenth day of March, in the year of the Lord Christi, one thousand, seven-hundred and ninety-two, in the presence of Obediah Turner, Obediah Watson and Daniel Ledbetter. I guess "Obediah" was a really common name at that time! Evidently David had not learned to read and write, because he signed his will with an "X" for his mark.

Here is the tally I've figured for David's estate: His home and land, which he may have still owed a mortgage on. Four mares and six horses; seventeen cows and fifteen calves; four heifers; three sheep; two saddles; two bridles; two rifles; one flax wheel; an Iron Pot. (I don't know why the words "Iron Pot" were capitalized; perhaps the Iron Pot was very valuable at that time.)

David's home furnishings included: Kitchen and household furniture, and eight feather beds with frames and headboards. David also owned: *One human being, a Negro woman named "Pal."* How ironic it is, that her name was "Pal." I wonder how many of our 'pals' would like for us to own them? As you can see, by my phraseology, I hate that a human being could be "owned" by another human being. However, we are talking about the late 1700's. At that time, even the best of men thought that God condoned slavery. So, I guess we must forgive our ancestors for their ignorance.

Elizabeth Wilder, Cooper died in 1797; but I don't know where she and David were buried.

JOHN COTTEN COOPER & NANCY ARNOLD, COOPER

John Cotten Cooper, David and Elizabeth's son, was born between 1754 and 1758 in the area now named Spartanburg, South Carolina. His first wife's name was Josephine, but I have no further information about her or that marriage. He married his second wife, Nancy Arnold, around 1775. I'm not sure where Nancy was living when they met; but one source indicates that they were married in Kentucky. Perhaps John traveled to Kentucky from Spartanburg, and met and married Nancy while he was there. However, at some point they returned to South Carolina, because seven of their fourteen children were born there.

The names of Nancy and John's children were: Thomas, David, Zachariah, Rhoda (Rody), Cader, Sarah, Charity, Elizabeth, Isaac, Rebecca, Winnefrey (Winnefray), Marcom (Marcome, Marcum), Eady, and Abner C. Cooper. We are Abner's descendants.

At some point, John and Nancy moved to Mississippi. One source suggests that they may have been part of a group of families that migrated from the Carolinas into Kentucky, Alabama and Mississippi.

John Cotten Cooper died before May 25, 1829 in Monroe County, Mississippi. He was at least seventy years old. His last will and testament was drawn up on April 1, 1829. John Greenlee and James Hackleman were witnesses at the signing of the will. John's son, Isaac Cooper, was appointed the Executor of the will; and an Administrator's Bond was issued to him on May 25, 1829.

John bequeathed to his wife Nancy: two feather beds, one half of all the household and kitchen furniture, one cow called Big Brindle and her yearling calf, and all the new cloth in his possession.

A receipt from Lounds County, Mississippi, which was signed by Nancy Cooper, by her mark and witnessed by Vardy McBee, James Snell Sr. and John Greenlee, was recorded on April 15, 1830. The items she received from her son Isaac, ADM. of John C. Cooper, deceased, late of Monroe County were: two feather beds and bedsteads, one cow called Big Brindle and her yearling calf, and all the new clothing in his possession, thirty bed covers, eight webs of cloth, one lot of spun *yearn* and one flax wheel. The receipt did not mention the household and kitchen furniture John bequeathed to her.

It is my assumption that John didn't have much when he died. He gave and bequeathed to all of his children, except Cader and Isaac, the sum of one dollar. Cader was given and bequeathed: one feather bed. Isaac was given and bequeathed: two horses, a black and a bay; all of John's cattle and hogs; (except for the cow and calf he had given to Nancy) the farming utensils; one half of the household and kitchen furniture; two feather beds; and one bedstead. Cader was also given all of John's debts, dues and demands.

Ancestors of Abner C. Cooper

Chart no. 1

No. 1 on this chart is the same as no. 1 on chart no. 1

8 **Marcome Cooper**
b. <1699>
p. Warwickshire, England
m. <1795>
p. Warwickshire, England or VA or SC
d.
p.

4 **David D. Cooper**
b. 1725-1726
p. ? Warwickshire, England or Virginia, ~
m. 1747-1751
p. ? Wake Co., NC or Virginia, or Spart~
d. Abt 17 Mar 1792
p. Spartanburg Co., SC

9 **Sarah Unknown**
b.
p.
d.
p.

2 **John Cotten Cooper**
b. 1754-1758
p. Spartanburg Co., SC
m. Abt 1775
p. ? Kentucky ?
d. <25 May 1829
p. Monroe Co., MS

10
b.
p.
m.
p.
d.
p.

5 **Elizabeth Wilder**
b. 1726-1730
p. Old Edgecombe, NC
d. 1797
p.

11
b.
p.
d.
p.

1 **Abner C. Cooper**
b. 1792
p. Spartanburg, South Carolina
m. 7 Oct 1813
p. Logan, Butler Co., KY
d. 1854
p. Clark County, IL
sp. Rebecca McCoy

12
b.
p.
m.
p.
d.
p.

6
b.
p.
m.
p.
d.
p.

13
b.
p.
d.
p.

3 **Nancy Arnold**
b.
p.
d.
p.

14
b.
p.
m.
p.
d.
p.

7
b.
p.
d.
p.

15
b.
p.
d.
p.

PART III
ABNER C. COOPER & REBECCA McCOY, COOPER

Abner C. Cooper was born around 1792 in Spartanburg, South Carolina. He was one of fourteen children born to John Cotten Cooper and Nancy Arnold, Cooper.

Another descendant of Abner's wrote a short history, which included information indicating that Abner had participated in "The Battle of Tippecanoe." I've never been able to confirm that he fought in that battle; but I do have verification that he fought in "The War of 1812."

According to the information I have, Abner joined the Kentucky Militia, to fight in that war between the United States and Great Britain. He was about twenty years old, when he entered the militia as a Private, at Red Banks, Kentucky on September 1, 1812. He was in a Company commanded by Captain Presley Morehead, which was part of the Eighth Regiment of the Kentucky Militia. Colonel Phillip Banker was the Commander of that Militia.

According to the information I have, Abner entered the militia for a term of six months; and continued in actual service in the war, for three months and twenty-three days. On December 23, 1812 he was honorably discharged at Red Banks, Kentucky. Major General Samuel Hopkins ordered Abner's discharge; and Captain Morehead and Colonel Banker both signed the order. Abner was probably wounded during his service, or he wouldn't have been honorably discharged while the war was still in progress. The war didn't end until 1815.

One source indicates that Abner and Rebecca met around 1812, while her family lived on a farm in Virginia. She would have been about fifteen or sixteen years old at that time. Perhaps she was one of many young nurses, who cared for the wounded American soldiers during the war.

Even if we can't be sure how or where they met, Abner and Rebecca were married in Logan, Kentucky; which is in Butler County. Their marriage took place on October 7, 1813. Abner was about twenty years old, and Rebecca was almost sixteen or seventeen. She was born on October 11, 1796 (or 1797) in Craven County, North Carolina to Willis McCoy II and Holland Daugherty, McCoy. For a time, Abner and Rebecca lived with her parents, in, or near, the town, or Township, of Rochester; which was in Butler County.

Abner and Rebecca's first child, Willis C. Cooper, was born in Rochester, Kentucky in 1814. They gave him the name "Willis" in honor of his maternal grandfather, Willis McCoy II.

Rebecca gave birth to their second child, John Abner Cooper, on November 27, 1819; and their third child, a daughter, named Polly Ann, was born in Butler County in 1823.

Abner and Rebecca moved to Clark County, Illinois; where Abner had been granted some tracts of land, as early as 1823. Their oldest son Willis, and daughter Polly Ann, came with them to Illinois. However, their son John Abner remained in Kentucky, with Rebecca's parents. He was just a little boy at that time; so I can't understand why they didn't bring him with them.

According to one source, Abner and Rebecca came to Illinois in 1828; and they lived in an area called Walnut Prairie for several years. Land Grant records indicate that Abner was granted land in Douglas County also; but I don't think he and his family ever lived there.

Abner and Rebecca's son Edward Nelson Cooper was born in York Township, on January 5, 1832. That township is in the southern part of Clark County, Illinois.

Around 1840, Abner purchased eighty acres of farmland in Section 31 of Wabash Township, in Clark County. He also had one hundred twenty-four acres in Section 32. Abner, and perhaps Rebecca, spent the rest of their lives on their farm in Section 32.

In 1850, Rebecca and Abner inherited two young slaves from her father's estate. Their names were Caleb and Hiram, ages seven and twelve; but I've never been able to find any information about what became of these little boys.

On May 24, 1851 Abner appeared before Stephen Archer, Justice of the Peace for Clark County. Abner made a declaration for the purpose of obtaining Bounty land he was entitled to, by an Act passed September 28, 1850. The Act granted Bounty Land to certain officers and soldiers, who had been engaged in the military services of the United States.

Abner presented his Discharge Order to Mr. Archer, who then "certified that Abner was the identical man who served" as sworn to and subscribed in Abner's declaration. Abner signed the declaration with an "X" as his mark. Thus, he was entitled to Bounty land; and he was granted several tracts of land during the 1850's.

A record that I found in the Clark County Court House in Marshall, Illinois indicates that at some point, Abner and Rebecca "gave to their natural born son John Abner Cooper" (the son who stayed in Kentucky) a portion of the land they owned in Clark County. They gave him all but one acre of the one hundred twenty-four acre farm on which they lived. John Abner may not have actually been present for the transaction, as they may have just transferred the deed to the property into his name.

Perhaps they gave John Abner this land, because at some point around that same time Abner and his son Willis, and son-in-law Samuel Dolson, were in a dispute over the sale of some farmland. The dispute even led to a lawsuit. I can't remember who owed whom for the land involved, but evidently the purchase price was never paid to the seller. I'm sure this dispute and lawsuit had created some very hard feelings between Abner and Willis, and Abner and Polly Ann's husband Samuel Dolson.

To top that, John Abner, whom I believe never came to Illinois to work that land, sold it some years later; and along with that land John Abner sold some other land that he had received from his brother Willis some years earlier. I believe that Willis was trying to coax his brother John Abner into coming to Illinois, by giving him that land around 1850.

Later, Willis purchased the twenty-three acres back from the couple John Abner had sold it to. This is all very crazy if you ask me; but it is completely factual. The documents, containing all of this information, are housed at the Clark County Court House in Marshall, Illinois. I used to have copies of those documents, but no longer have them.

Abner C. Cooper died in January or February of 1854. He was about sixty-two years old. He and Rebecca had been married for forty-one years. She was comforted by the presence of their youngest son, twenty-two year old Edward Nelson; who was still living with her in the farmhouse on the remaining acre of the farm.

Abner had no will, so all of his remaining land and personal property went into his estate. I was never able to figure out just exactly what he left to Rebecca and his heirs. However, Rebecca, Edward Nelson and Samuel Dolson were present when Jacob Dolson became the Administrator of Abner's estate on March 20, 1854. Their signatures, or mark of an "X" in Rebecca's case, are on the Administrator's Bond that was issued that day.

I'm not sure what was happening for the next two and a half years; but there is a document that makes me question if his estate was ever settled. It was very hard to read, but this is what I have deciphered from it:

> Samuel Dolson and Alfred Johnston appeared before the Justice of the Peace, and being sworn, stated that they had been acquainted with Abner C. Cooper during his lifetime. They also stated that Abner had died sometime in January or February of 1854. Johnston stated that he had seen Abner at the time of his death, and "assisted in laying him out." Dolson also stated that he had assisted with the funeral. They further stated that they were acquainted with Rebecca Cooper, the widow of Abner Cooper, and that she was still alive and functioning.

The document was dated the 22nd day of October (I think), 1856; and was signed by the Justice of the Peace, W. C. Whitlock. I wish I knew why Samuel Dolson and Alfred Johnston had to swear out this affidavit. This sure is a mystery that really has me puzzled!

After Abner died, Rebecca and Edward Nelson continued to live in the farmhouse on the one-acre that was left of the one hundred and twenty-four acre farm, where they'd lived since 1840. By that time, Willis owned the one hundred and twenty-three acres of farmland that surrounded that farmhouse.

Rebecca McCoy Cooper lived for twenty-five years as the widow of Abner C. Cooper. I believe she lived with Edward nelson and his family until her death in 1879. Some records indicate that she died on January 24th and another record indicates that her death occurred on June 24, 1879. I don't know where she and Abner are buried.

According to a biographical sketch in ***HISTORY OF CLARK COUNTY, ILLINOIS***, Edward Nelson must have respected his mother a great deal. The author wrote about him: "Although raised in the days of primitive schools, Edward Nelson succeeded in gaining a fair business education, mainly under the instruction of his mother, who, though she never attended school but three days, had a very analytical and powerful mind."

At the time that the sketch was written, Edward had "a farming interest of three hundred twenty-three acres of land in Wabash Township and one hundred fourteen acres in Darwin Township. His residence was eight miles east from Marshall. He was one of the most extensive and prosperous farmers in the county."

Edward Nelson married Mary Jane Stephens on January 17, 1865 in Clark County, Illinois. She was born in Des Moines County, Iowa on August 9, 1843 to Elijah Stephens and Ann Smith, Stephens.

Mary Jane and Edward Nelson had three children, all of whom were born in Wabash Township. They were: Sheridan Cooper, born on October 8, 1865; Minona "Minnie" Cooper, born on July 30, 1867; and Robert Cooper, born on February 23, 1870.

According to this source, Edward Nelson was the "youngest of five children" raised by Abner and Rebecca. I have never found any information about a fifth child for them. Perhaps the fifth child died in infancy, and is just not mentioned in any of the other sources I have used for this history.

Edward Nelson Cooper died on March 8, 1901 in Clark County, Illinois and he was buried in the Black Cemetery in Clark County. He was sixty-nine years old. His wife, Mary Jane Stephens, Cooper was buried next to him after she died on June 6, 1928.

We are not Edward Nelson's descendants. We are the descendants of his oldest brother, Willis C. Cooper.

The Family of Abner C. Cooper & Rebecca McCoy, Cooper

Husband	**Abner C. Cooper**	
Born	1792	Spartanburg, South Carolina
Died	1854	Clark County, IL
Buried		
Father	John Cotten Cooper (1754-1829)	
Mother	Nancy Arnold (-)	
Married	7 Oct 1813	Logan, Butler Co., KY
Wife	**Rebecca McCoy**	
Born	11 Oct 1796 or 1797	Craven Co., NC
Died	24 Jan 1879 (or Jun 24)	Clark Co., IL
Buried		
Father	Willis McCoy II (1768-1850)	
Mother	Holland Daugherty (1775-1863)	
Children		
1 M	**Willis C. Cooper**	
Born	7Aug 1814 (or 20 Aug)	Rochester, Butler Co., KY
Died	22 Aug 1875	Clark Co., IL
Buried		
Spouse	Susan (Susannah) "Jane" Thompson (1837-1879)	9 Oct 1856 - Clark Co., IL
2 M	**John Abner Cooper**	
Born	27 Nov 1819	Butler Co., KY
Died	16 Feb 1888	Butler Co., KY
Buried		Union Cemetery, Butler Co., KY
Spouse	Hulda Brown McCoy (-)	29 Dec 1846 - Butler Co., KY
3 F	**Polly Ann Cooper**	
Born	1823	Butler Co., KY
Died	<1881>	Clark Co., IL
Buried		
Spouse	Holmes (-)	
4 M	**Edward Nelson Cooper**	
Born	5 Jan 1832	York Twp., Clark Co., IL
Died	8 Mar 1901	Clark Co., IL
Buried		
Spouse	Mary Jane Stephens (1843-1928)	17 Jan 1865 - Clark Co., IL

PART IV
WILLIS C. COOPER & S. "JANE" THOMPSON, COOPER

Willis C. Cooper was born on August 7th or 20th of 1814. His birthplace was in the town, or Township of Rochester, Kentucky; which is in Butler County. He was the first child of Abner C. Cooper and Rebecca McCoy, Cooper. He was named after his grandfather, Willis McCoy II; and, was the first "Willis Cooper" in our family's history.

Willis came to Clark County, Illinois with his parents in the mid to late 1820's. One source of folklore indicates that he joined the Army in 1846, and fought in the Mexican War. He would have been about thirty-two years old, so he may have been one of the older men to fight in that war; but I've never found a record of it.

Also according to folklore, Willis went to California around 1850, in search of gold. Maybe he found a fair amount of gold; because, Land Records indicate that he purchased several tracts of farmland in the 1850's. He gave, or possibly sold, some of the land to his brother John Abner, who still lived in Kentucky. Perhaps Willis was trying to persuade him to come to Illinois, to be with their family. (John Abner had remained in Kentucky, when the rest of their family moved to Illinois.) John Abner eventually sold the land he had received from his brother Willis.

On October 9, 1856 in Clark County, Illinois a marriage license was granted to "Willis Cooper of lawful age and Susan Jane Thompson by consent." He was forty-two years old, and "Jane" was only nineteen. According to the marriage license, Jane's first name was "Susan," but in some documents she is referred to as "Susannah." I guess it doesn't really matter, because she went by "Jane" anyhow. She was born around 1827, in Clark County, Illinois; so, she was twenty-three years younger than Willis. Her parents were Daniel Thompson and Rhuannah Hughes, Thompson.

Willis and Jane had seven children, all born in Clark County. Their first four children were sons; and they welcomed their first daughter into the world on August 3, 1867. They named her Rhuannah, after her maternal grandmother. They must have been thrilled to finally have a baby girl. However, their happiness was dashed thirteen months later, when this precious little girl died on September 3, 1868. Rhuannah E. Cooper was buried in the Thompson Family Cemetery, located in Section 35 of Wabash Township, in Clark County, Illinois.

Jane gave birth to another son in 1869. They named this little boy Thomas William Burton Cooper. He was not yet five years old, when his mother gave birth to his baby sister on August 29, 1874. Some sources indicate that her name was Annie, and others indicate that her name was Mary. Which ever the case may be, she did not survive infancy. She died in 1874, and was buried in the Thompson Family Cemetery also. Both of these tragic deaths had to have devastated Willis and Jane. Perhaps these tragedies were just too much for Willis to bear. Willis C. Cooper died on August 22, 1875 and he was buried in the Thompson Family Cemetery next to one of his daughters. He had recently turned sixty-one years old.

Thomas William Burton, or "Burt", as he was called, was not yet six years old, when Willis died. The other boys were: Jonathan Ismal (Ishmael) ten years old, Willis Aaron thirteen years old, Daniel Thompson fourteen years old, and John Abner sixteen years old. (This "Willis Aaron" is not to be confused with Burton's son, Willis Aaron, who was born in 1898.)

Jane was appointed as the Administrator of her husband Willis's estate, on September 7, 1875. Her brother Alexander Thompson and her brother-in-law Edward Nelson Cooper were witnesses. Allen B. Briscoe, Clerk of the County Court for Clark County, Illinois, issued the Administrator's Bond.

The land Willis owned, and his other personal property more than likely went to Jane. She was probably responsible for paying any debts he had; and, she would also be able to collect from those who owed him a debt.

Jane remarried. Her second husband's last name was Beecham or Beach. I believe her sons lived with them, until she died of Typhoid Fever on February 21, 1879. Susan (or Susannah) Jane Thompson was buried in the Thompson Family Cemetery; however, she was not buried next to Willis.

Willis and Jane's sons became orphans the day she died; and, eventually they went to live with relatives and neighbors. When the 1880 Census was taken, some of them were listed as "laborers" or "farmhands" in the households of the relatives and neighbors. However, I believe little Burt was listed as an adopted son, in the household of an uncle, who was one of Jane's brothers. He was never legally adopted, so his last name wasn't changed.

The Family of Willis C. Cooper & Susannah Jane Thompson, Cooper

Husband	**Willis C. Cooper**	
Born	7Aug 1814 (or 20 Aug)	Rochester, Butler Co., KY
Died	22 Aug 1875	Clark Co., IL
Buried		
Father	Abner C. Cooper (1792-1854)	
Mother	Rebecca McCoy (1796-1879)	
Married	9 Oct 1856	Clark Co., IL
Wife	**Susan (Susannah) "Jane" Thompson**	
Born	1837	Clark Co., IL
Died	21 Feb 1879	Clark Co., IL
Buried		Thompson Family Cemetery, Clark Co., IL
Father	Daniel Thompson (-)	
Mother	Rhuannah Hughes (-)	
Children		
1 **M**	**John Abner Cooper**	
Born	5 Jun 1859	Clark Co., IL
Died	16 Sep 1949	Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
Buried		
Spouse	Emma Catherine Waldon (Walden) (1861-1929)	20 Mar 1880 - Vigo Co., IN
2 **M**	**Daniel Thompson Cooper**	
Born	4 Jun 1861	Clark Co., IL
Died		California
Buried		
Spouse	Kate Eldred (-)	
3 **M**	**Willis Aaron Cooper**	
Born	19 Feb 1862	Clark Co., IL
Died	7 Oct 1945	
Buried		
Spouse	Maggie Gamron (-)	24 Dec 1884 - Clark Co., IL
4 **M**	**Jonathan Ismal (Ishmael) Cooper**	
Born	11 May 1865	Clark Co., IL
Died	13 Aug 1888	Clark Co., IL
Buried		
Spouse	Louisa Jane Walden (1870-)	23 Aug 1887 - Clark Co., IL

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The Family of Willis C. Cooper & Susannah Jane Thompson, Cooper

Children (cont.)				
5	**F**	**Rhuannah E. Cooper**		
Born		3 Aug 1867	Clark Co., IL	
Died		3 Sep 1868	Clark Co., IL	
Buried				
Spouse				
6	**M**	**Thomas William Burton Cooper**		
Born		25 Nov 1869	Clark Co., IL	
Died		4 Mar 1941	Vigo Co., IN	
Buried				
Spouse		Mamie Elizabeth Walden (1874-1952)		1 Jan 1890 - Clark Co., IL
7	**F**	**Annie or Mary Cooper**		
Born		29 Aug 1874	Clark Co., IL	
Died		1874	Clark Co., IL	
Buried				
Spouse				

PART V
T. W. BURTON COOPER & MAMIE E. WALDEN, COOPER

Thomas William Burton Cooper, or "Burt" as he was called, was the sixth child of Willis C. Cooper and Susan (Susannah) "Jane" Thompson, Cooper. He was born on November 25, 1869 in Clark County, Illinois.

Burt's parents had suffered the loss of their daughter Rhuannah, just a little more than a year before he was born. When he was almost five years old, his mother gave birth to another baby girl. However, tragedy struck this family again. This little girl died also.

Little Burt wasn't even six years old, when his father died in 1875. His mother Jane remarried. Her new husband's last name was Beecham or Beach. I believe that Burt and his brothers lived with them, until she died of Typhoid Fever in 1879. After becoming an orphan, Burt went to live with one of his mother's brothers.

In 1888, Burt's brother Jonathan was killed accidentally, while blasting tree stumps with dynamite. He had been married to Louisa Jane Walden for one year; and their son was only nine days old. The Cooper and Walden families had to have been devastated by this tragic accident.

Louisa Jane had a sister named Mamie Elizabeth Walden. Perhaps while consoling each other after the accident, Burt and Mamie fell in love. Their marriage took place on January 1, 1890 in Clark County, Illinois. Burt was twenty years old and his bride was fifteen. Mamie was born in Clark County, Illinois to James Walden and Mary Ann "Molly" Christine, Walden.

> James Walden was born in Indiana around 1843. His father, John Walden, was from Ohio. His mother was from Tennessee. James was at least part Native American.
>
> James married Mary Ann "Molly" Christine on June 27, 1869. Their marriage took place in Clark County, Illinois. Their first child was born in 1870. Her name was Louisa Jane Walden. Their second child, born in 1872, was a son named John B. Walden. Mamie was their third child. Their fourth child, Mary B. Walden, was born in 1877. Her little sister was born in 1879. She was named Maggie M. Walden.
>
> I don't know when James died. However, he was buried in the old part of the Bethesda Cemetery; which is in western Vigo County, Indiana. His grave marker indicates that he belonged to the *IONIA* tribe of Native Americans. However, I have not been able to find any information about a tribe with that name. I think maybe the name of the tribe should be *IOWA, not IONIA.*
>
> I don't have any other information about Mary Ann "Molly" Christine.

Burt and Mamie had ten children by 1909. These are the names of those children, in the order of their birth: Ophie, Edna Florence, Minnie Ola, Willis Aaron, John, Clarence Emil, Daniel McClellan, Clifford, Abner and Mabel Marie. All of these children were born in Clark County, in or near Dennison Illinois.

Burt and Mamie's sixth child, Clarence Emil, was born December 10, 1901; and died October 8, 1902. He was ten months old. The death of this baby was another huge tragedy for Burt, Mamie, and their family to deal with. Burt had suffered so many tragic deaths of his loved ones. Perhaps this made him a hardhearted man, as I've been told he was. But, I never knew him, so I can't say if he was or wasn't.

Burt and Mamie suffered another tragedy in 1813 or 1815, when their oldest child, Ophie, died. She was only in her early twenties.

At some point, Burt was a coal miner. While he was working in a slope mine, one of his legs was crushed. The injury left him with a slight limp, and he may have used crutches from time to time, for a long time after the accident.

Burt was also a farmer. At some point, he traded the farm for a grocery store. He made the exchange with Hugh Wright; who was married to his daughter Edna. The grocery store was located on old U. S. Highway 40.

While operating the grocery store in the 1920's, Burt's youngest child, Mabel Marie, worked for him. He never paid her for the work she did at the store, and figured she was "earning her keep". Back then many children worked for their parents, and were not paid. Try to get away with that today!

According to folklore: One day, while in the porch swing at the store, Burt was nearly struck by a stray bullet from a hunter's rifle. Luckily, the bullet missed his head. It was lodged in the wall behind the swing, only inches from where he was sitting.

I'm not sure what year Burt sold the grocery store, and moved to Dugger, Indiana with Mamie. No one has been able to tell me when, or why, he and Mamie moved there. However, they left their home in Dugger around 1933 or 1934, and moved to their home in western Vigo County, Indiana. Their son Willis Aaron had moved his family to that area in 1927. Another son, Clifford, built a house in that area also. I don't know when Burt retired. In spite of his bad leg, he was able to do some minor carpentry, but he didn't earn a living at it.

Thomas William Burton Cooper died on March 4, 1941. He was seventy-one years old. He was buried in Dunlap Cemetery, which is in Clark County, near Dennison, Illinois. Burton's survivors included his wife, Mamie Elizabeth Walden, Cooper; five of his six sons: Willis Aaron Cooper, John Cooper, Daniel McClellan Cooper, Clifford Cooper and Abner Cooper; three of his four daughters: Edna Florence Cooper, Wright; Minnie Ola Cooper, Nichols; and Mabel Marie Cooper, Whitesell.

Burton's other survivors included: his three older brothers John Abner Cooper, Willis Aaron Cooper and Daniel Thompson Cooper; a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Mamie was Burton Cooper's widow for almost twelve years. During that time, she developed some very close relationships with several of her grandchildren and her great-grandchildren. Of course, she loved all of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. But, she was particularly close to those that lived close to her. She was a "very much loved" mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

Mamie had diabetes, and had to have part of a foot amputated; and eventually, she needed to have the leg amputated. However, I don't know if she died after that amputation or before it could be performed.

Mamie Elizabeth Walden, Cooper died on December 27, 1952. She was seventy-eight years old. She was buried next to Burton, in the Dunlap Cemetery near Dennison, Illinois. Before her death, she was told that she had a brand new great-grandson. Her grandson, Bennie Bert Cooper and his wife Joy had just welcomed into the world their first child, a little boy that they named Michael Bennie Cooper. Mamie was very happy that Bennie Bert now had the son that he wanted so badly; and her spirit seemed to be lifted by the news of my older brother's birth.

Mamie's survivors included three of her daughters: Edna Wright, Minnie Nichols and Mabel Whitesell, and five of her sons: Willis Aaron Cooper, John Cooper, Daniel Cooper, Clifford Cooper and Abner Cooper. Her other survivors included: a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

The Family of T. W. Burton Cooper & Mamie E. Walden, Cooper

Husband	**Thomas William Burton Cooper**	
Born	25 Nov 1869	Clark Co., IL
Died	4 Mar 1941	Vigo Co., IN
Buried		
Father	Willis C. Cooper (1814-1875)	
Mother	Susan (Susannah) "Jane" Thompson (1837-1879)	
Married	1 Jan 1890	Clark Co., IL
Wife	**Mamie Elizabeth Walden**	
Born	18 May 1874	Clark Co., IL
Died	27 Dec 1952	Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
Buried		
Father	James Walden (-)	
Mother	Mary Ann "Molly" Christine (-)	
Children		
1 F	**Ophie Cooper**	
Born	18 Jun 1892	Clark Co., IL
Died	23 Jun 1913 or 1915	Vigo County, IN
Buried		
Spouse	Thornton Lane (-)	Vigo Co., IN
2 F	**Edna Florence Cooper**	
Born	18 Feb 1894	Clark Co., IL
Died	20 May 1968	Vigo Co., IN
Buried		
Spouse	Hugh Wright (-)	
3 F	**Minnie Ola Cooper**	
Born	18 Oct 1896	Clark Co., IL
Died	7 Jul 1982	Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
Buried	9 Jul 1982	Roselawn Memorial Park
Spouse	Olen E. Nichols (1892-1962)	10 Feb 1914 - Vigo County, IN
4 M	**Willis Aaron Cooper**	
Born	4 Jun 1898	Clark Co., IL
Died	1 May 1972	Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
Buried		Roselawn Memorial Park, North Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
Spouse	Beulah Gladys McFadden (1901-1968)	3 Jun 1916 - Vigo Co., IN

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The Family of T. W. Burton Cooper & Mamie E. Walden, Cooper

Children (cont.)			
5	**M**	**John Cooper**	
Born		16 Mar 1900	Clark Co., IL
Died		31 Jan 1998	Vigo Co., IN
Buried			
Spouse		Mary Frances Knight (1907-1999)	22 Sep 1925 - Vigo Co., IN
6	**M**	**Clarence Emil Cooper**	
Born		10 Dec 1901	Clark Co., IL
Died		8 Oct 1902	Clark Co., IL
Buried			
Spouse			
7	**M**	**Daniel McClellan Cooper**	
Born		31 May 1903	Clark Co., IL
Died		1 Sep 1972	Vigo Co., IN
Buried			
Spouse		Elzzie Emma Matherly (-)	11 Dec 1923
8	**M**	**Clifford Cooper**	
Born		20 Apr 1905	Clark Co., IL
Died		7 May 1993	Vigo Co., IN
Buried			Bethesda Cemetery
Spouse		Viola Boling (-)	30 Jan 1943
9	**M**	**Abner Cooper**	
Born		8 Apr 1907	Clark Co., IL
Died		31 Jan 1999	Vigo Co., IN
Buried			
Spouse		Lucille Doss (-)	24 Dec 1926 - Vigo Co., IN
10	**F**	**Mabel Marie Cooper**	
Born		16 Sep 1909	Clark Co., IL
Died		27 Jan 1997	Vigo Co., IN
Buried			
Spouse		Arthur Whitesell (-)	17 Sep 1927 - Vigo Co., IN

PART VI
WILLIS & JANE'S OTHER CHILDREN

JOHN ABNER COOPER & EMMA WALDEN, COOPER

John Abner Cooper was born in Clark County, Illinois on June 5, 1859. He was the first child of Willis and Jane Cooper. He is the second "John Abner Cooper" in our family's history, and was named after his father's brother.

John Abner married Emma Catherine Waldon (Walden) on March 20, 1880 in Vigo County, Indiana. Emma was born in Vigo County on October 20, 1861. Her parents were John Waldon (Walden) and Catherine Shaw, Waldon (Walden).

Abner and Emma had ten children, all of whom were born in Clark County. These are the names of those children, in the order of their birth: Bertha, Clarence, Ernest, Grace, twins Romulus and Remus, Frank, Blanche, Gladys and Hazel.

Emma Catherine Waldon (Walden), Cooper died at age sixty-seven in Wabash Township of Clark County, Illinois on October 2, 1929. She was buried in the Black Cemetery in Clark County.

John Abner Cooper died at age ninety on September 16, 1949 at St. Anthony's Hospital in Terre Haute, Indiana. He was buried in the Black Cemetery also.

DANIEL THOMPSON COOPER & KATE ELDRED, COOPER

Willis and Jane's second child was born in Clark County, Illinois on June 4, 1861. They named the little boy Daniel Thompson Cooper. He was named after his maternal grandfather.

Daniel married Kate Eldred, in Clark County, Illinois. They had a daughter named Laura Cooper. At some point Daniel and Kate moved to California, and that is where Daniel died.

WILLIS AARON COOPER & MAGGIE GAMRON, COOPER

The third child of Willis C. Cooper and Jane Thompson, Cooper was born in Clark County, Illinois on February 19, 1862. He was named Willis Aaron Cooper, and was the first "Willis Aaron" in our family's history. He is not to be confused with his nephew Willis Aaron Cooper born in 1898. I believe that "Aaron" was the name of one of Jane's brothers.

When Willis Aaron was twenty-two years old, he married Maggie Gamron. Their marriage took place in Clark County, Illinois on December 24, 1884.

This Willis Aaron Cooper died on October 7, 1945.

JONATHAN I. COOPER & LOUISA JANE WALDEN, COOPER

Jonathan Ismal (may be pronounced Ishmael) Cooper was the fourth child of Willis and Jane Cooper. He was born in Clark County, Illinois on May 11, 1865. He may also have been named after one of Jane's brothers.

When Jonathan was twenty-two he married Louisa Jane Walden, who was about seventeen years old. She was born around 1870 in Illinois, to James Walden and Mary Ann "Molly" Christine, Walden.

Jonathan and Louisa's marriage took place in Clark County, Illinois on August 23, 1887. Their son Melvis (or Melvin) Clinton Cooper was born on August 4, 1888. He was only nine days old when his father, Jonathan, was killed while blasting tree stumps with dynamite. Jonathan Ismal Cooper died on August 13, 1888. I don't know when Louisa died, or where she and Jonathan are buried.

RHUANNAH E. COOPER

Rhuannah E. Cooper was the first daughter of Willis and Jane Cooper. She was born in Clark County, Illinois on August 3, 1867. She died on September 3, 1868. She was buried in the Thompson Family Cemetery.

ANNIE or MARY COOPER

Willis and Jane's youngest child was born on August 29, 1874. According to some sources, they named the little girl Annie. Other sources indicate that her name was Mary. She died in infancy, in 1874, and was buried in the Thompson Family Cemetery also.

PART VII
BURT & MAMIE'S FIRST THREE CHILDREN

OPHIE COOPER & THORNTON LANE

Ophie Cooper was born on June 18, 1892 in Clark County, Illinois and she was raised in Dennison. She was the first child of Burt Cooper and Mamie Walden, Cooper. Ophie married Thornton Lane in Vigo County, Indiana. They were married for only a short time, when she died in childbirth. Her death occurred in Vigo County, on June 23, 1915. She was twenty-three years old. (One source indicates that she died in 1913. If she did, she was only twenty-one years old.)

EDNA FLORENCE COOPER & HUGH WRIGHT

Edna Florence Cooper was born on February 18, 1894 in Clark County, Illinois near Dennison. She was the second child of Burt Cooper and Mamie Walden, Cooper.

Hugh once owned a grocery store that he exchanged for Burt Cooper's farm. Hugh was also a talented and well-respected blacksmith. He and Edna had no children.

Edna Florence Cooper, Wright died in Vigo County, Indiana on May 20, 1968. She was seventy-four years old. I don't know where or when Hugh died, or where they are buried.

MINNIE OLA COOPER & OLEN E. NICHOLS

Minnie Ola Cooper was the third child of Burt and Mamie Cooper. She was born in Dennison, Illinois on October 18, 1896. She married Olen E. Nichols on February 10, 1914. She was eighteen years old, and he was twenty. Olen was born on December 21, 1893 in Sugar Creek Township, Indiana. He was the son of Edward Nichols and his wife Mattie. Edward was born in Clark County, Illinois, and Mattie was born in Iowa.

Minnie and Olen had one son named Gilbert, born in 1916; and at some point they lived in a house on

Washington Avenue. In 1946, they purchased an older house, which sat way back off of Brown Avenue, on eight acres. They continued to live in the house on Washington for a while.

In 1949, they were living in the house off of Brown Avenue. That year, they gave Gilbert an acre of that property; where he built a new brick home for his own family. In 1952, Minnie and Olen built a new home, closer to the street, adjacent to Gilbert's home. They lived there together, until Olen's death. They had been married for forty-eight years.

Olen E. Nichols died in Terre Haute, Indiana on December 18, 1962 of a ruptured appendix. He was buried on his birthday, the 21st of December, in Roselawn Memorial Park. Olen's survivors included his wife Minnie, their son Gilbert, Gilbert's wife Ruth, and their son "Jimmy."

Minnie Ola Cooper, Nichols lived as Olen's widow for almost twenty years. She died of congestive heart failure, in Terre Haute, on July 7, 1982. She was eighty-five years old. Minnie was buried next to her husband Olen, in Roselawn Memorial Park, on July 9, 1982.

Minnie's son, Gilbert, preceded her in death. Surviving Minnie were Gilbert's wife Ruth, their son "Jimmy", his wife Charlene, and their children, Ricky and Michele. Other survivors included: her sister Mabel Whitesell, her brothers John, Clifford, and Abner Cooper; and a host of nieces, nephews, great nieces, and great nephews.

The Family of Minnie Ola Cooper, Nichols & Olen E. Nichols

Husband	**Olen E. Nichols**	
Born	21 Dec 1892	Sugar Creek Township, IN
Died	18 Dec 1962	Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
Buried	21 Dec 1962	Roselawn Memorial Park
Father	Edward Nichols (-)	
Mother	Mattie Unknown (-)	
Married	10 Feb 1914	Vigo County, IN
Wife	**Minnie Ola Cooper**	
Born	18 Oct 1896	Clark Co., IL
Died	7 Jul 1982	Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
Buried	9 Jul 1982	Roselawn Memorial Park
Father	Thomas William Burton Cooper (1869-1941)	
Mother	Mamie Elizabeth Walden (1874-1952)	
Children		
1 M	**Gilbert Nichols**	
Born	9 May 1916	Vigo Co., IN
Died	19 Jan 1982	Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
Buried	22 Jan 1982	Roselawn Memorial Park
Spouse	Ruth Ester Adams (1918-1990)	Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN

PART VIII
WILLIS A. COOPER & B. GLADYS McFADDEN, COOPER

My grandfather, Willis Aaron Cooper was born June 4, 1898 near Dennison, in Clark County, Illinois. He was the fourth child, and first son of Burt Cooper and Mamie Walden, Cooper. He was named after his father's brother, Willis Aaron Cooper; so, he was the second "Willis Aaron Cooper" in or family's history.

When Grandpa was only fourteen years old, he left his parent's home. Evidently he had done something that really angered his father; and he knew he had to leave, or face dire consequences. He found a place to live, but he had to find a job, so he could support himself. He went to the only place that he thought might hire him, which was the coal mine. After a brief discussion with Grandpa, the man that hired him promised him that he wouldn't have to work in the same area as his father.

While working in the coal mine, Grandpa was slightly injured. Somehow he was mashed against the floor of the mine. The incident left small pieces of coal imbedded in his forehead, which he carried for the rest of his life.

Seventeen year-old Willis was a laborer, and living at Twenty Seventh and Franklin Streets in Terre Haute when he married Beulah Gladys McFadden. Their marriage took place on June 3, 1916 in Vigo County, Indiana. According to their marriage record: Grandma Gladys was sixteen years old; her father, Benjamin McFadden, gave consent for her to be married; and Grandpa's uncle, Willis Aaron Cooper, gave consent for him.

I have always been told that Grandma Gladys was born in Clay County, Indiana and that her mother's name was Nancy. However, her first marriage record indicates: she was born in Owen County, Indiana on April 7, 1900; her mother's maiden name was Kathryn Power, also born in Owen County; and Kathryn was deceased. Her second marriage record indicates that: she was born on April 7, 1901 in Owen County; her father was born in Illinois; and her mother's maiden name was Katherine Parks! So, I'm not sure what the truth is.

> Benjamin P. McFadden was born in June of 1861, in Clay County, Indiana. According to the 1880 Census, Benjamin was still living with his parents, John and Sarah McFadden. They lived in an area called Sugar Ridge, in Clay County.
>
> When the 1900 Census was taken, Benjamin was married and had four children. These are the names of those children: Clara, Emery, Nettie and Bessie. The name listed for Benjamin's wife, in the 1900 Census, was Catherine; and the mother's name given on Gladys and Willis's marriage record was Kathryn. Maybe her middle name was Nancy, and that was the name she went by. But her first name was Catherine (Kathryn or Katherine).
>
> Clara McFadden was born on June 9, 1881. Her brother, Emery McFadden, was born on March 24, 1887. Nettie McFadden was born in February of 1892; and Bessie McFadden was born in May of 1895.

Grandpa and Grandma were the parents of eight children, four sons and four daughters. Grandma gave birth to them over a period of twenty years, from 1917 to 1937. I believe she and Grandpa were living in Terre Haute when their first five children were born. Their fifth child, Lucille, was born while they lived on Dean Street, in Terre Haute. When she was two months old, in April of 1927, they moved to a farmhouse in western Vigo County, on thirteen and a half acres, near Sugar Creek, and the Green Valley Coal Mine. The three youngest children, Gene, Bennie Bert and Frieda Mae, were born while they lived there.

Grandpa farmed his fields with a team of horses. He also had a half-ton pickup truck called a "whip it" truck he used in his "truck patch" where he grew sweet corn, tomatoes, vegetables, and watermelons; he grew strawberries in another patch.

Grandpa's family ate some of the fresh produce, some was preserved, and he also took truckloads of the produce to the farmer's market located at First and Chestnut Streets in Terre Haute. There, he sold it right out of his truck bed. Now there's a store named *The Farmer's Market* across the street from where the original farmer's market was located.

Grandpa, Grandma, and their children lived on the farm for more than fifteen years. Grandpa's parents had moved to that area around 1934; and his brother, Clifford, built a house in that area too. However, around 1944, Grandpa sold the farm and purchased a house at 1406 Second Avenue in Terre Haute.

At some point, Grandpa went to work for the Works Progress Administration, which was named the Work Projects Administration later. While he was working for the W. P. A., as it was commonly called, some of his co-workers gave him his nickname "Pete." Apparently Grandpa could tell the time of day, by the sun's position, and when he thought it was noon, he would "bray" like a mule, to signal lunchtime. So, they all started calling him Pete, which is a nickname for a mule. From that time on, he was called "Pete" by most of his friends, and especially by his son Paul.

Grandpa also worked at the Terre Haute Brewery, which was located at the northeast corner of South Ninth Street and Poplar Street. I don't know when he started working there, or how long he worked there. But, I do know that he was working there from July 1, 1944 to at least July 29, 1950.

According to Grandma's second marriage record, she and Grandpa were divorced in January of 1946. She married Wilbur Franklin Allen on May 29, 1946 in Vigo County, and they lived at 131 North Fifth Street in Terre Haute. Both of them were restaurant employees. He was born on August 23, 1914 in Terre Haute to John E. Allen and Anna May Grizzle, Allen both of Bicknell, Indiana.

I have no further information about Grandma's marriage to Wilbur, but in July of 1946 she was living at 805 North Sixth Street in Terre Haute; and in November of 1947 she was living at 327 North Fifth Street, just two blocks north of where they had been living when she and Wilbur had gotten married.

In the early 1950's Grandma lived out in the country, with Aunt Vernis and Uncle Kenny. But, she made it clear that she wanted to move back to Terre Haute. So, they eventually took her back to the city. I don't know where she lived right after that; but at some point she lived with her sister Bessie for a while, as I can remember visiting with her there when I was a little girl. Later, she stayed at most of her children's homes for a time, especially during the Christmas Holidays. But, I don't think she ever lived with any of them for a long period of time.

Grandpa's second wife, Cleora Coffman, Carter; was the widow of Jesse Carter. Grandpa had hauled coal for them, and they had become friends. After Jesse died, Grandpa and Cleora became very close, and were later married.

Grandpa loved to grow vegetable gardens, flowerbeds, and fruit trees, and he enjoyed caring for all of them. He helped my dad plant a few big vegetable gardens at our place out in the country. He also planted peach and pear trees at our place. He really had a green thumb.

By 1963, our Cooper family was very large. By then, Grandpa had eight children with eight spouses, twenty-six grandchildren, three with spouses; and he had at least four great-grandchildren. There were a total of at least sixty people in our family by Christmas Eve of 1963. Then we need to add Cleora's family, which was large also. Some of her family and some of Grandpa's came to the Christmas Eve gatherings at their house. So, that house was really packed, when most of them came together to the annual Christmas Eve gathering on December 24, 1963.

Grandma's health problems were exacerbated by a stroke. After that, she had to use a wheelchair. She came to stay at our house on Seventh Avenue for a time in the late 1960's.

My sister Melissa read to her from the Bible; which made her very happy, and calmed her. I think she felt very at ease with Melissa. I wasn't able to form a close bond with her, like Melissa did; but I wish I could have.

Beulah Gladys McFadden, Cooper died on April 3, 1968; just four days before her sixty-seventh birthday. She was buried in Roselawn Memorial Park, next to a gravesite reserved for Grandpa Cooper, who had been her husband for about thirty years.

Grandma's survivors included her eight children: Donald Otis Cooper, Vernis Marie Vermillion, Paul Cooper, Opal Fern Huff, Minnie Lucille Neice, Willis Eugene Cooper, Bennie Bert Cooper and Frieda Mae Mesaeh. Other survivors included her twenty-seven grandchildren and at least ten great-grandchildren. Her youngest grandchild hadn't been born yet.

As far as I know, Grandpa cared for his vegetable gardens, flowerbeds, fruit trees, and his yard, all the way to the end of his life. It didn't surprise me, that he was still mowing his yard at nearly seventy-four years old; and that is what he was doing, when he had a fatal heart attack. His neighbor found him; but it was too late, he was already gone. At least Grandpa hadn't suffered a long illness.

Willis Aaron Cooper died on May 1, 1972. He was seventy-three years old. He was buried next to Grandma Gladys in Roselawn Memorial Park, in North Terre Haute. His survivors included his second wife Cleora; his four sons; four daughters; two sisters: Minnie Nichols and Mabel Whitesell; four brothers: John Cooper, Daniel Cooper, Clifford Cooper and Abner Cooper; his twenty-eight grandchildren; at least a dozen great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews along with their children.

The Family of Willis Aaron Cooper & B. Gladys McFadden, Cooper

Husband	**Willis Aaron Cooper**	
Born	4 Jun 1898	Clark Co., IL
Died	1 May 1972	Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
Buried		Roselawn Memorial Park, North Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
Father	Thomas William Burton Cooper (1869-1941)	
Mother	Mamie Elizabeth Walden (1874-1952)	
Married	3 Jun 1916	Vigo Co., IN
Wife	**Beulah Gladys McFadden**	
Born	7 Apr 1901	Clay Co., IN
Died	3 Apr 1968	
Buried		Roselawn Memorial Park, North Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
Father	Benjamin P. McFadden (1861-1940)	
Mother	Catherine (Kathryn or Katherine) "Nancy" Parks or Powers (-Bef 1916)	
Children		
1 M	**Donald Otis "Don" or "Duke" Cooper**	
Born	20 Apr 1917	Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
Died	15 Jun 1991	West Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
Buried	17 Jun 1991	Roselawn Memorial Park
Spouse	Bertha Waneta Evans (1918-)	Dec 1943 or 1944 - Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
2 F	**Vernis Marie Cooper**	
Born	1 May 1919	Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
Died	13 Jul 2005	Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
Buried	16 Jul 2005	Roselawn Memorial Park
Spouse	Kenneth Lowell Vermillion (1911-2003)	20 Nov 1937 - Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
3 M	**Paul Cooper**	
Born	17 Mar 1921	Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
Died	7 Apr 1992	Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
Buried		
Spouse	Betty Jo Shanks (1930-)	
Marr. Date	June 3 or 4, 1948 - Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN. (Divorced)	
4 F	**Opal Fern Cooper**	
Born	22 Oct 1923	Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
Died	29 Oct 2003	Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
Buried		Roselawn Memorial Park
Spouse	Paul Wesley Huff (1920-1965)	6 Jul 1946 - Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN

continued on next page

The Family of Willis Aaron Cooper & B. Gladys McFadden, Cooper

Children (cont.)			
5	**F**	**Minnie Lucille "Tiny" or "Teely" Cooper**	
Born		10 Feb 1927	Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
Died			
Buried			
Spouse		Edgar Vernon Niece (-)	13 Sep 1949 - Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
Spouse		James Harley George (-)	
Marr. Date		1 Jul 1944 - Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN. (Divorced)	
6	**M**	**Willis Eugene "Gene" Cooper**	
Born		31 Aug 1929	West Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
Died			
Buried			
Spouse		Ruth Jean "Ruthie" Carter (1930-1996)	20 Apr 1948 - Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
7	**M**	**Bennie Bert Cooper**	
Born		29 Jul 1932	West Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
Died		8 Sep 2004	Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
Buried		10 Sep 2004	Roselawn Memorial Park
Spouse		Joy Julia Crombie (1931-2001)	
Marr. Date		29 Jul 1950 - Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN. (Divorced)	
8	**F**	**Frieda Mae Cooper**	
Born		1 Jul 1937	Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
Died		30 Jul 1991	Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN
Buried			Roselawn Memorial Park
Spouse		Patrick Joseph Mesaeh (-)	
Marr. Date		27 Mar 1954 - Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN. (Divorced)	
Spouse		John Willman (-)	

DANIEL M. COOPER & ELZZIE MATHERLY, COOPER

Daniel McClellan Cooper was born in Clark County, Illinois near Dennison on May 31, 1903. He was the seventh child of Burt and Mamie Cooper. Dan married Elzzie Matherly on December 11, 1923.

Dan and Elzzie had two children: Arthur and Dorothy. I don't have any further information about them and their families; except that they have a granddaughter named Janet Thompson. Daniel McClellan Cooper died September 1, 1972. He was sixty-eight years old. I don't know when Elzzie died, or where they were buried.

CLIFFORD COOPER & VIOLA STINSON, BOLING, COOPER

Clifford Cooper was born on April 20, 1905 in Clark County, Illinois near Dennison. He was the eighth child of Burt and Mamie Cooper. At some point, Clifford built a home near his brother Willis's home, in the Green Valley Coal Mine area. Their parents moved to the area in 1933 or 1934.

Clifford married a lady named Viola on January 30, 1943. She had been previously married, and had a daughter named Alberta Stinson, or Boling. Alberta's father's last name was one or the other.

Viola Cooper died on July 17, 1988. She was eighty-eight years old. I don't know where she was buried. Other than Clifford and Alberta, I don't know who her survivors were.

Clifford Cooper died in Vigo County on May 7, 1993. He was also eighty-eight years old. He was buried in the original part of the Bethesda Cemetery, in western Vigo County. His survivors included his brother John Cooper, his sister Mabel Whitesell, and a host of nieces and nephews and their families.

ABNER COOPER & LUCILLE DOSS, COOPER

Abner Cooper was born on April 8, 1907 near Dennison in Clark County, Illinois. He was the ninth child of Burt and Mamie Cooper. Abner married Lucille Doss on December 24, 1926 in Vigo County, Indiana. At that time he was a coal miner, and she was a store clerk. She was born in Vigo County on August 15, 1907 to Clarence Doss and Cora Fields, Doss.

Lucille and Abner had three sons. The oldest son was Gilbert Ronald. Thomas Albert was second oldest and Abner Eugene was the youngest.

Lucille died around 1960, but I don't know exactly when, or the cause of her death. Abner was later remarried, and he and his second wife's name was Nellie.

Abner and Lucille's youngest son, Eugene, was born on March 16, 1939. He died on February 19, 1959 in Greenland, while in the military service. He was not yet twenty years old. I don't know where he was buried.

Abner Cooper died on January 31, 1990. I don't know where he and Lucille are buried. His survivors included: his sons Gilbert and Thomas along with their families; his brother John; his sister Mabel and her husband Arthur Whitesell, who was also his friend; and a host of nieces and nephews along with their families.

MABEL M. COOPER, WHITESELL & ARTHUR WHITESELL

Mabel Marie Cooper was born on September 16, 1909 near Dennison in Clark County, Illinois. She was the tenth child of Burt and Mamie Cooper. When Mabel was an adolescent she worked in her parents' grocery store. She never liked the fact that she wasn't paid for the work she did there. However, that's just how it was back then. Older children that could work were expected to "earn their keep."

PART IX

BURT & MAMIE'S LAST SIX CHILDREN

JOHN COOPER & MARY FRANCES KNIGHT, COOPER

John Cooper was born on March 16, 1900 in the town of Dennison, in Clark County, Illinois. He was the fifth child, and second son, of Thomas William Burton Cooper and Mamie Elizabeth Walden, Cooper.

John's first wife was Gladys Lindsey. Gladys died, and they had no children. His second wife was Mary Frances Knight; and they were married on September 22, 1925 in West Terre Haute, in Vigo County, Indiana. John was twenty-five years old and Mary was eighteen. She was born in Paris, Illinois; which is in Edgar County on September 19, 1907. She was the third of twelve children born to Francis Marion Knight and Nellie Bessie Emerick.

John and Mary had twelve biological children, including a set of twins that were lost in a miscarriage, and were not named. These are the names of their other ten children: Wayne Francis, Vernon William, Robert Leroy, Wilma Mae, Bessie Louise, John Jack, Albert Marion, Charles Nelson, Ronnie Burton and Mamie Nelle. All of these children were born in West Terre Haute, Indiana; and four of them did not survive childhood.

Wayne Francis Cooper was born in March of 1926; and he died the same day. He was buried in the Dunlap Cemetery near Dennison. Illinois. Wilma Mae Cooper was born in March of 1931; and she died in August of 1931. She was also buried in the Dunlap Cemetery. Bessie Louise Cooper was born in August of 1932; and she died in August of 1933. She too was buried in the Dunlap Cemetery. Ronnie Burton Cooper was born in July of 1843; and he died in March of 1944. He was also buried in the Dunlap Cemetery.

John and Mary also raised a boy that was not their biological child. His name is Ronald Keith Paul. He was born in Chicago, in Cook County, Illinois in May of 1945. His mother's name was Alice; and she wasn't able to raise him. When he was still a baby, he came to live with Mary's parents, Francis and Nellie Knight.

When Ronald was about six years old, Nellie died. Around 1951, little Ronald and Francis Knight came to live with Mary and John, who finished raising the little boy.

John didn't live to be one hundred years old, as he'd wanted; but he did live for nearly ninety-eight years. He died on January 31, 1998 and was buried in the Dunlap Cemetery. His survivors were his wife, Mary, seven of their children, nineteen grandchildren, more than a dozen great-grandchildren, and possibly a few great great-grandchildren. Other survivors included several nieces and nephews along with their families.

Mary Frances Knight, Cooper died on October 9, 1999. She was ninety-two years old. She was buried in the Dunlap Cemetery next to her husband of more than seventy-two years. Her survivors included: seven of her children, nineteen grandchildren, more than a dozen great-grandchildren, some great-great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews along with their families. Other survivors may have included some of her siblings.

CLARENCE EMIL COOPER

Clarence Emil Cooper was the sixth child of Burt Cooper and Mamie Elizabeth Walden, Cooper. He was born in Clark County, Illinois on December 10, 1901. He died on October 8, 1902. He was not yet ten months old.

On September 17, 1927, which was the day after Mabel's eighteenth birthday, she married Arthur Whitesell in Vigo County, Indiana. Eighteen year old Art, as he was called, was a laborer at that time, and at 527 Edwards Street in West Terre Haute.

Art was born on April 7, 1909 in Indiana to George Whitesell and Anna McKay, Whitesell; but his maternal grandmother raised him. When he was a young man, he cut hair at a commune in West Terre Haute. He may have learned his barbering skills from his father, who was a barber; but Arthur hadn't been raised by his father, so he may have just came by those skills naturally.

Art may have been working for the New York Central Railroad Company, when he was drafted into the Army during World War II. He was stationed stateside, so he never left the United States. He was a cook at a training camp, and sometimes he gave the soldiers haircuts.

Art returned to work for the New York Central Railroad after the war was over; and he worked there for many years. He and Mabel lived in West Terre Haute more than once. At one point, they lived outside of West Terre Haute, across the road from her nephew Thomas Cooper. While living there, Mabel's mother, Mamie, stayed with them for a while. Eventually Mabel and Art sold that house, and bought a house on South Nineteenth Street in Terre Haute. Her brother Abner was Art's friend, and he had a house on South Nineteenth Street also.

Other than my parents, Aunt Mabel was the first one to help me with the Cooper Family History in 1980. She told me I should go to Butler County, Kentucky for more information about our ancestors; so I did, and I found a lot of information there. For this, I owe her a debt of gratitude for getting me started.

Eventually, Aunt Mabel and Uncle Art sold their home on South Nineteenth and moved back to West Terre Haute. This time they stayed with her nephew Tom and his family. By that time, she and Art both had some serious health problems.

Arthur Whitesell preceded Aunt Mabel in death, but I don't know the date of his death, or who his other survivors were. Mabel Marie Cooper, Whitesell died in Terre Haute on January 27, 1997. She was eighty-seven years old. Her survivors included her brother John Cooper, and a host of nieces and nephews along with their families.

Aunt Mabel and Uncle Art never had any children of their own, but they were always close to their many nieces and nephews. My father was very fond of Aunt Mabel and Uncle Art, as were most of his siblings and Cooper cousins.

When I was working at K-Mart, during the 1970's, Uncle Art occasionally came in to get sandwiches for him and Aunt Mabel. He always took the time to visit with me for a spell. He was a very friendly and kind sort of man. If he knew that someone needed help, he gave them that help, if it was possible for him to do so. He and my Great-Aunt Mabel were two of my favorite people in our family.

PART X
THE DESCENDANTS OF MINNIE COOPER, NICHOLS & OLEN E. NICHOLS

GILBERT NICHOLS & RUTH E. ADAMS, COOPER

Gilbert Nichols was born in Vigo County, Indiana on May 9, 1916. He was the only child of Minnie Ola Cooper, Nichols and Olen E. Nichols. He was probably raised in the home that Minnie and Olen had on Washington Avenue, in Terre Haute. He went to Thornton Elementary School, which has now been torn down. He may have gone to Gerstmeyer, but he didn't graduate from High School.

Gilbert married Ruth Ester Adams. Their marriage took place in Terre Haute. Ruth was born in Vigo County on July 18, 1918. She also attended Thornton School, and went on to graduated from Wiley High School around 1936. She and Gilbert were living on Dean Street, when their only child, a son named James Marvin Nichols was born in 1942.

In 1949, Gilbert's parents gave him an acre of their property on Brown Avenue. On that acre of land, Gilbert built a very nice brick home for his family. Three years later, Olen built a new home adjacent to Gilbert's home. Gilbert and Ruth lived in their home on Brown Avenue for the rest of their lives.

Gilbert Nichols died at Union Hospital, in Terre Haute on January 19, 1982. He had suffered a cerebral hemorrhage. He was sixty-six years old. He was buried in Roselawn Memorial Park on January 22nd. His survivors included: his mother Minnie Nichols, his wife Ruth Nichols, his son James, and his two grandchildren Ricky and Michele. Other survivors included three uncles: John Cooper, Clifford Cooper and Abner Cooper; one aunt: Mabel Whitesell; and a host of cousins and their families.

Ruth Ester Adams, Nichols died of cancer in Terre Haute on December 4, 1990. She was buried on December 6th in Roselawn Memorial Park next to her husband Gilbert. Ruth's survivors included her son James, and two grandchildren Ricky and Michele.

JAMES MARVIN NICHOLS & CHARLENE SCHLUP

James Marvin Nichols was born in Terre Haute, Indiana in January of 1942. He is the only child of Gilbert Nichols and Ruth Ester Adams, Nichols. Jim or Jimmy, as he has been called both throughout his life, was raised on the east side of Terre Haute. He lived with his parents on Dean Street until 1949. When he was about seven years old, his father built their new brick home on Brown Avenue.

Jimmy attended Thornton School through the ninth grade, and Gerstmeyer High School through the twelfth grade; and he graduated from there in 1960. In 1961, when Jim was nineteen years old, he started his first "paying" job at Lee School Supply.

When Jim was twenty-two years old, he married Charlene Schlup, who was twenty-one. Their marriage took place at Saint Mark United Church of Christ on Fruitridge Avenue, in May of 1964. Charlene was born in Terre Haute on March 22, 1943.

Jim and Charlene's first home together, was a trailer on her parent's property, near their house on South 13 ½ Street. They lived there for about six months. Then they bought a house on Dean Street, where they lived for twenty years. While they were living there, Jim was working at K-Mart on East Wabash Avenue. Their children, Ricky Dean Nichols and Michelle Lynn Nichols were born while they lived there. When the children were young, Jim's first promotion was to Assistant Manager at K-Mart. He had other promotions after that and when he was offered his last promotion, he didn't accept it, because the pay was not commensurate with the work it entailed.

Jim and Charlene had sold their house on Dean Street around 1985, and moved into his Grandparent's home on Browne Avenue. They lived there for about twenty years. Around 1986, Jim left K-Mart, and started his own business as a contractor. He owned his own truck and hauled asphalt with it for almost ten years.

In 1995, Jim had a heart attack, and couldn't continue doing the heavy work that his contracting business entailed. So, he retired from that business. He still has some health problems, but that doesn't stop him from doing what he wants to do. After he and Charlene were divorced, he traded the home on Browne Avenue for the home he now lives in. It is located in Prairieton, Indiana on several acres of land; which he cares for him self.

In August of 2005, Jim became a grandfather for the first time. His daughter Michelle gave birth to a beautiful little girl named Ariella, who is the light of his life. He is very proud of her.

RICKY DEAN NICHOLS

Ricky Dean Nichols was born in Terre Haute, Indiana in January of 1966. He is the first child of James Marvin Nichols and Darlene Schlup. He was raised in Terre Haute, where he attended Thornton Elementary School, Woodrow Wilson Junior High School and South Vigo High School.

When he was about twelve years old, Ricky started his first job, delivering newspapers for *The Terre Haute Tribune.* He continued working for them even after he started driving, and was also delivering *The Weekly* in Terre Haute.

Ricky graduated from South Vigo around 1984. He attended Indiana State University, and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Finance. At some point in the late 1980's, he started working at Bacharacks Men's Clothing Store in Terre Haute. He has worked for them in several other cities including: Fort Wayne, Indiana; Indianapolis, Indiana; and Decatur, Illinois. He is now working as an Inventory Control Manager for them in Chicago, Illinois.

Ricky is still a bachelor and has no children at this time.

MICHELE LYNN NICHOLS, ENGLE & MARK ENGLE

Michele Lynn Nichols was born in Terre Haute, Indiana in December of 1967. She is the second child of James Marvin Nichols and Darlene Schlup, Nichols. She was raised in Terre Haute, where she attended Thornton Elementary School, Woodrow Wilson Junior High School and South Vigo High School.

When Michelle was about twelve or thirteen years old she started her first job. She too, was delivering newspapers for *The Terre Haute Tribune;* just like her older brother. Later she worked at the *Dairy Queen* on South Seventh Street; and she eventually helped manage that store.

Michelle graduated from South Vigo around 1986. She attended Saint Mary of The Woods College, and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Business. She later attended classes in Terre Haute from Indiana Wesleyan University out of Anderson, Indiana; and earned her Masters Degree. She now works at Sony Digital Audio Disc Corporation in Terre Haute; where she is a Music Manager. She has been working there for more than six years.

Michele married Mark Engle. Their marriage took place in Bermuda. They live in Brazil, Indiana with their daughter named Ariella Engle, who was born in Terre Haute in August of 2005.

PART XI
THE CHILDREN OF WILLIS AARON COOPER & BEULAH GLADYS McFADDEN, COOPER

DONALD O. COOPER & BERTHA W. EVANS, COOPER

Donald Otis Cooper was born in the city of Terre Haute on April 20, 1917. He was the first child of Willis Aaron Cooper and Beulah Gladys McFadden, Cooper. When he was sixteen years old, he went to work for The Conservation Corps. With them, he went to California, where he planted cedar trees in the mountains. When he came home from California, he brought with him: a bearskin, the rattle from a rattlesnake, and a horned toad in a cigar box. All of which excited his little brother Gene.

Uncle Don worked for the Pennsylvania Rail Road at the "Pennsylvania Shop" in Terre Haute, where railroad cars were made. His job was 'bucking rivets.' The finished railroad cars were stored in a large 'roundhouse' located on the same property on Fourth Avenue.

Uncle Don had two daughters, named Dorene and Donna, from his first marriage. That marriage ended in 1943 and his ex-wife was given custody of the girls. However, Uncle Don fought for custody of them; and while doing so, he met Bertha Waneta Evans. She grew to love the girls, and shared Uncle Don's concerns for them.

Uncle Don and Aunt Waneta, as I have always called her, were married in Vigo County on December 24, 1943. She was born in 1918 in Clinton, Indiana. They rented a little house on the River Bottom Road, which is now called Barnhardt Road, located west off of Highway 63, in northwestern Vigo County.

Uncle Don was awarded custody of Dorene and Donna in 1945. By that time he and Aunt Waneta had a third daughter named Carolyn Ruby. Eventually they moved to another house on Highway 150, where he raised rabbits. He raised many kinds of animals throughout the rest of his life. While living there, Uncle Don built a small house on fifty-eight acres he had purchased on Bolton Road. When it was finished, they moved into it. It was the first house he built on Bolton Road. Later, he built a second, then a third house on his property. He also built a large barn and some other structures. They moved into the third house during the Thanksgiving Holidays in 1956.

Eventually, Uncle Don and his family were left with forty of the original fifty-eight acres. Well after the girls were raised, he built another smaller house; and that is where he and Aunt Waneta lived, for the rest of his life. She still lives there. He worked for the Vigo County School Corporation until he retired, and Aunt Waneta worked at St. Anthony's Hospital in Terre Haute for many years. She is now ninety-years old. Donald Otis Cooper died in Terre Haute on June 15, 1991. He was seventy-four years old. He was buried in Roselawn Memorial Park.

VERNIS M. COOPER, VERMILLION & KENNETH L. VERMILLION

Vernis Marie Cooper was born in Terre Haute, Indiana in May of 1919. She was the second child of Willis Aaron Cooper and Beulah Gladys McFadden, Cooper. Aunt Vernis went to school through the eighth grade.

When Aunt Vernis was eighteen years old, she married Kenneth Lowell Vermillion on November 20, 1937 in Terre Haute. He was born in West Terre Haute in July of 1911 to William Austin Vermillion and Mary Frances Mickleberry, Vermillion. Aunt Vernis and Uncle Kenny's first son, Kenneth Robert, was born in 1942; and John Paul was born in 1946.

Uncle Kenny and Aunt Vernis bought an old two-story house on forty acres, east of Highway 150, in the northwestern part of Vigo County. It was on a road, later named Sandford Road.

Uncle Kenny farmed about half of the forty acres. He rotated corn, beans, wheat and hay. He and his brother also leased some farmland near the Wabash River. It was referred to as the "river bottoms" or "bottom land." The soil there is very rich, but there is always the risk of being flooded. However, some farmers think the rich land is worth the risk.

At some point, Uncle Kenny decided to raise ponies and cows. He struck a great deal with the coalmine company that owned the land adjacent to his property. They agreed to purchase the fencing needed to separate their properties. Uncle Kenny agreed to supply the posts and the laborers needed for the project. Men from the Vermillion and Cooper families helped with the project.

Uncle Kenny also worked for the Pennsylvania Rail Road Company, which later merged with the New York Central Rail Road Company; and became the Penn-Central Rail Road Company. He worked for this company until his retirement.

Aunt Vernis and Uncle Kenny built a new house in 1955. She worked at the Union Laundry in Terre Haute; and at some point, she worked at Hook's Drug Store. She also found other ways to earn money. She made butter with the fresh cream, from the milk of their cows. She sold the extra butter to her neighbors.

Uncle Kenny retired from the Penn-Central Rail Road Company in 1976, when he was sixty-five years old. He and Aunt Vernis enjoyed retirement. They traveled to many interesting places, sometimes with tour bus groups.

Around 1984 or 1985 Aunt Vernis and Uncle Kenny sold their home and forty acres to the coal company. They moved to Kenwood Subdivision, near West Vigo High School. Their new home sat on the east side of Kenwood Lake.

Uncle Kenny helped build the Sugar Creek Baptist Church, on U. S. Highway 40 and South Thorpe Place. He and Aunt Vernis were members of that church. He was a greeter and she handed out weekly programs. They also donated an organ to the church. They lived very happy, long lives.

Kenneth Lowell Vermillion died at Union Hospital in Terre Haute, on October 19, 2003 after suffering a heart attack. He was ninety-two years old. He was buried in Roselawn Memorial Park. His survivors included his wife Vernis Vermillion; their two sons: Kenneth Robert Vermillion and John Paul Vermillion; their three grandchildren: Nicky Jo Stringer, Neil Douglas Vermillion and Glen Aaron Vermillion; and their great-granddaughter; Tonya Jo Stringer.

Vernis Marie Cooper, Vermillion was eighty-six years old, when she died less than two years after her husband Kenneth. She suffered a fatal heart attack on July 13, 2005 while being hospitalized with heart failure. She was buried next to Kenneth in Roselawn Memorial Park on July 16th. They had been married for nearly sixty-six years.

Other than her sons, grandchildren and great-grandchild, Aunt Vernis's survivors included: her brother Willis Eugene Cooper, her sister Lucille Niece, and a host of nieces and nephews along with their families.

PAUL COOPER & BETTY JO SHANKS, COOPER

Paul Cooper was born on March 17, 1921 in Terre Haute. He was the third child of Willis Aaron Cooper and Beulah Gladys McFadden, Cooper. He was drafted into the United States Army after the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor in December of 1941. When he was finished with boot camp, he came home on furlough. Then, after his furlough, he was sent to New York Harbor. From there he traveled by ship to northern Africa; and he fought the German soldiers there, and later in Italy. He later told his family, "I saw the Casino River run red with the blood of American soldiers and German soldiers."

Uncle Paul attained the rank of Sergeant, as a Combat Engineer. He and his men built bridges and roads ahead of the infantry. He operated bulldozers and other large equipment; all while having a carbine rifle strapped to his back, as did his men. Some soldiers died horrible deaths, and some never knew what hit them. Uncle Paul saw men die both ways, and those horrible images were stamped into his memory, as they were in most of the soldiers' memories.

After the war ended, Uncle Paul was sent to the South Pacific. The American soldiers came under fire from Japanese soldiers in the mountains there, because they had not yet been told that the war was over. Some of them had lost their toes to frost bite, and their lives were actually saved by American soldiers, who took them down the mountains to get the medical treatment that they needed to survive.

Uncle Paul broke out with hives while in the South Pacific. He was hospitalized, and then sent home by ship. He landed first on the coast of San Francisco, California; where he caught a "troop train," on which, he came across the country all the way back to Terre Haute.

While Uncle Paul was living at his father's house on Second Avenue in Terre Haute he worked at the Terre Haute Brewery. He married Betty Jo Shanks on June 4, 1948 in Vigo County; and their first child, a son, was born around 1951. They named him Ciren Paul after Mount Ciren, which Uncle Paul had seen during the war. Their daughter Kairen Jane was born around 1954; and they were eventually divorced.

Uncle Paul lived in West Terre Haute, and worked for the Vigo County School Corporation. He lived in West Terre Haute, until he became very ill from cancer and had to go to a nursing home. Paul Cooper died on April 7, 1992 at the Lake View Nursing Home in Terre Haute. His daughter Kairen Jane was at his side. His son Ciren Paul preceded him in death in March of 1992.

Uncle Paul was buried next to his parents, in Roselawn Memorial Park. I haven't been able to contact Kairen Jane, so I don't have any information about her and Ciren Paul; so I'm not able to write a biography for them and their children.

OPAL FERN COOPER, HUFF & PAUL WESLEY HUFF

Opal Fern Cooper was born in the city of Terre Haute, in Vigo County, Indiana on October 22, 1923. She was the fourth child of Willis Aaron Cooper and Beulah Gladys McFadden, Cooper.

Opal went to Concannon School through the eighth grade; but like all of her siblings, she didn't graduate from high school. She married Paul Wesley Huff on July 6, 1946 in Vigo County. He was born in Terre Haute on February 1, 1921 to William Huff and Bertha Ellen Johnson, Huff who were both born in Sullivan County, Indiana. William was killed in a car accident when Paul was a boy.

Paul graduated from Gerstmeyer High School, and served in the U. S. Army during World War II. When he came home from the war, he joined the Terre Haute Police Department. After he and Opal were married for a while, he left the police department and joined the Terre Haute Fire Department. He was stationed at the firehouse on South Ninth Street, between Wabash Avenue and Ohio Street.

At some point, Aunt Opal worked at the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company, or "Quaker Maid" as it was more commonly called. It was located at Fruitridge Avenue and Locust Street, on the east side of Terre Haute. She may have been working there, when their first child, Jay William, was born in January of 1953. Their daughter, Jeanetta Marie, arrived in December of 1955, when they were living on North Fourteenth Street in Terre Haute.

Eventually, Uncle Paul became Terre Haute's Fire Inspector, and they bought a home on the northeast corner of South Ninth and Voorhees Streets. Their third child, Mark Aaron, was born in November of 1957, around the time that moved into the house on South Ninth Street.

Paul Wesley Huff died of cancer on June 7, 1965 in Terre Haute, Indiana. He was only forty-five years old. Many firemen, policemen and public figures from the city of Terre Haute attended his funeral. He was buried in Roselawn Memorial Park. His survivors included: his mother Bertha Huff; his loving wife Opal Huff; and their three children: Jay Huff, Jeanetta Huff and Mark Huff.

By 1967, Aunt Opal started working at Columbia Records, on Fruitridge Avenue, on the northeast side of Terre Haute. Her mother-in-law, Bertha, came to live with her and the children; and she cared for them while Aunt Opal worked the night shift.

At some point, Aunt Opal married Ralph Roberts. He had been married to Betty Huff, Uncle Paul's sister that died of cancer, when her daughter Debbie was only seven years old. Aunt Opal sold her home on South Ninth Street, and bought a big house on Putnam Street; where they all lived as a family.

After Aunt Opal was divorced from Ralph, she sold her house on Putnam in 1977. She bought a house on South Eighth Street; but sold it to Jay, when she married Everett Maxwell in 1978. She also retired from Columbia Records that year. She had worked there for eleven years. She and Everett loved to travel. They visited Branson, Missouri and Nashville, Tennessee more than once. They were really enjoyed retirement, until Everett could no longer travel. Everett Maxwell died in 1999. He was eighty-four years old. He was buried in Roselawn Memorial Park.

In the summer of 2001, Aunt Opal suffered the loss of her son Jay. He died of cancer, just like his father had. In the summer of 2002, her granddaughter Lindsey, Mark's oldest child, was in a fatal car accident. She was just sixteen years old. Aunt Opal's heart was filled with grief, and her health deteriorated very quickly. Jan did what she could for her mother; but Aunt Opal was never really able to rebound from all of the tragedy in her life. Eventually she had to be placed in a nursing home.

By October of 2003, Aunt Opal's health had taken a turn for the worse. Eventually, she was hospitalized, but never recovered. She died on October 29, 2003 at eighty years of age.

Aunt Opal was buried in Roselawn Memorial Park, next to her husband, Paul Wesley Huff and their son Jay William Huff. Her survivors included her daughter Jeanetta Marie Huff, Frazier; her son Mark Aaron Huff; two granddaughters: Angela Dawn Frazier, Haynie and Sara Ashley Frazier; three grandsons: Cody Jay Huff, Mark Aaron Huff II and Zackery Ryan Huff; and two great-granddaughters: Angel Jade Haynie and Olivia Rose Haynie. Her other survivors included two of her brothers: Willis Eugene Cooper and Bennie Bert Cooper, two of her sisters: Vernis Vermillion and Lucille Niece, and many nieces and nephews.

LUCILLE COOPER, GEORGE, NIECE & EDGAR NIECE

Minnie Lucille Cooper was born on February 10, 1927 at Union Hospital, in the city of Terre Haute, Indiana. She is the fifth child of Willis Aaron Cooper and Beulah Gladys McFadden, Cooper. They named her "Minnie" after his older sister. However, she was never called Minnie, and has gone by Lucille all of her life. She was also called "Tiny." Which was a nickname given to her, because she was the smallest member of her family; however, her mother called her "Teely."

When Aunt Lucille was two months old, her family moved to a farm in western Vigo County. She was raised on that farm; and she attended Concannon School. Like all of her siblings, she didn't graduate from high school.

Aunt Lucille married James Harley George on July 1, 1944 in Vigo County, Indiana. Reverend William Ketner united them in marriage. She was seventeen years old and he was twenty-two. James was born in Terre Haute on April 23, 1922. Aunt Lucille was working at Davis Gardens when they were married; and continued to work there while she was pregnant and after children were born. He was in the U. S. Army.

Their first child, a daughter named her Sandra Lucille, was born in Terre Haute in 1945. Their second child, a son named James E. George, was born in Terre Haute, in 1947. Lucille and James were divorced in October of 1947.

Aunt Lucille was working at a pattern factory, on September 13, 1949, when she married Edgar Niece in Vigo County. At that time, he was working at "Quaker Maid" in Terre Haute. Edgar was born in Burnett, Indiana on December 26, 1918 to Zena Niece, a retired coalminer who was born in Burnett also; and Stella Hayes, Niece, a housewife who was born in Shelburn, Indiana.

Aunt Lucille and Uncle Eddy had three daughters, all born in Terre Haute. Debra Sue was born in 1950. In 1955, Brenda Darlene was born; and in 1965, Valerie was born.

Aunt Lucille is almost eighty-one years old. Her husband Edgar is deceased. In July of 2006, she was diagnosed with colon cancer, and had surgery. She recuperated at Royal Oaks Nursing Home for a while; and was eventually able to return to her home on Eighth Avenue for a while. However, she had to return to the nursing home. She lived there until her death in March of 2008. She was eighty-one years old. Her survivors include her five children, at least eleven grandchildren, along with several great and great-great-grandchildren.

WILLIS EUGENE COOPER & RUTH CARTER, COOPER

Willis Eugene Cooper, or Gene, as he is called, was born at Union Hospital in Terre Haute, Indiana on August 31, 1929. He was the sixth child of Willis Aaron Cooper and Beulah Gladys McFadden, Cooper. He was raised on the family's farm in western Vigo County, outside of West Terre Haute. While living there, he went to Concannon School, and when he was young, he ran a tractor for two years on a neighbor's farm. His job ended, when Grandpa sold the farm and they moved to Terre Haute. Uncle Gene never returned to school after that. He went to work at Davis Gardens, and when he left there, he went to work at John's Dental Laboratory and White-Raferd's Dental Supply.

When Uncle Gene was seventeen, he worked for a company north of Chicago. Men from all over the United States worked there, and they were housed in barracks once used by the Navy at the Great Lakes Training Base. When the war ended, the Navy didn't use all of them; so, they were leased to employers in the area.

Uncle Gene's roommates, who worked for the same company, were also from Terre Haute. One was Paul Smith, whom he had gone to school with. About a week after Gene started working with them, they went to work at the Downey Veteran's Hospital as orderlies. Uncle Gene wasn't big enough to be an orderly, but he went to work in the kitchen at the hospital. Males and females were cared for there. The women were WAVES and WAAC'S.

While Uncle Gene was home for a while, he and Ruth Jean Carter were married on April 20, 1948 in Vigo County. She was born on February 23, 1930 in Terre Haute to Jesse Carter and Cleora Coffman, Carter. They returned to the Chicago area and rented an apartment in Waukegan, Illinois on Lakeshore Drive.

Uncle Gene returned to his job at the hospital for a time; but later, they moved to Terre Haute and both went to work at Lowden's Tomato Canning Company. He later worked at Wabash Fiber Box and the Penn-Central Rail Road Shipping Yards.

Uncle Gene and Aunt Ruth had their first child in 1949; and in 1950, Uncle Gene went to work at American Can. They had Steven, Janice and Wayne while they lived in Terre Haute. Then, in 1955, they bought a place Highway 246, and Theresa was born while they lived there.

Uncle Gene worked at American Can for ten years. It shut down in 1960. He also worked at Midland Glass, the Terre Haute Malleable, and Lough Brother's Roofing and Siding, where he worked for the next twenty-two years. When he retired from there, he took a year off, then he went to work at Bunch Nurseries. While working there, he received his Social Security. After he worked there for five years, he went to work for "The Bug Man," owned by his nephew John Vermillion, and was there for a year, then retired at age sixty-five.

Eventually, Uncle Gene moved to Carlisle, Indiana. While he was living there, Aunt Ruth died on March 5, 1996. She was sixty-six years old. She was buried in Mount Pleasant Cemetery. Her survivors included five children: Wanda Lawson, Steven Cooper, Janice Beasley, Wayne Cooper and Theresa Walters; twelve grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Uncle Gene now lives in Prairieton, and celebrated his seventy-eighth birthday in August of 2007.

BENNIE BERT COOPER & JOY JULIA CROMBIE, COOPER

My dad, Bennie Bert Cooper was born in July of 1932 at Union Hospital in Terre Haute. He was the seventh child of Willis Aaron Cooper and Beulah Gladys McFadden, Cooper. His family lived on their farm until he was about twelve years old. He went to Concannon School while his family lived in the country. Around 1944, they moved to a house on Second Avenue, in Terre Haute; and he went to McLean Junior High School, and Gerstmeyer High School. However, he didn't graduate from high school.

When Dad was seventeen years old, he met my mom, Joy Julia Crombie at the old Wigwam Skating Rink on Wabash Avenue. When Dad offered to tie the laces on her skates, Mom graciously accepted his offer; and after that they couldn't keep their eyes off of each other. As they say, "The rest is history."

Mom was born at home, in West Terre Haute, in November of 1931 to Mary Louise Sloat, Crombie and William Ira Crombie. They pushed her to excel in school. She was the Salutatorian of her graduating class, at Valley High School, in West Terre Haute. After she finished high school, she attended Indiana State Teachers College. Which was later named Indiana State University. Music was her major, and she had planned to be a music teacher after she graduated from college. But, after she and Dad fell in love, she lost interest in her studies, so she didn't finish college.

Dad and Mom were married in July of 1950 at Grandpa Cooper's house on Second Avenue in Terre Haute. Dad turned eighteen years old that day, and Mom was eighteen also. He was working as a laborer at that time. He also worked at Phelps Manufacturing Company in Terre Haute.

Mom and Dad's first house was on Dean Street in Terre Haute. While living there, my older brother, Michael Bennie Cooper was born in December of 1952. When he was still very little, Dad worked at the Terre Haute Malleable on North Nineteenth Street. While working there he contracted Strep Throat, and later had Rheumatic Fever.

Dad had to be hospitalized for a good while, and at times my mom and Aunt Frieda thought he might not make it. When he was released from the hospital, he had a long recuperation ahead of him. He couldn't work, so Aunt Vernis and Uncle Kenny took them in, and he and mom were very grateful.

After Dad was well, he and Mom moved to a house on South Eleventh in Terre Haute. They lived there, when I was born in September of 1954. When I was a year old, they bought a house on twenty-four acres, in southeastern Vigo County, about five miles northwest of Blackhawk, Indiana. By then, Dad was a home delivery milkman for Meadow Gold.

Mom had my sister Melissa in April of 1957; and my little brother Greg was born in November of 1963. Throughout the years, aunts, uncles and cousins came to our house in the country to visit. On the weekends, even in the winter, if the snow had been plowed from our road, we had company.

In 1965, Mom and Dad decided to sell our home in the country. Before our place was sold, they rented a house on Washington Avenue, on the southeast side of Terre Haute. We moved into it in April of 1965. After our place in the country sold, they bought a house on Seventh Avenue. We moved into it in November of 1965.

My mom and dad were divorced in 1968. At some point, he lost his job at Meadow Gold, and after that, he was never the same. He had always taken pride in his salesmanship abilities. He had other jobs, but couldn't find a job that suited him as well as being a milkman had.

In the early 1970's, Mom went to Nursing School, and earned a Licensed Practical Nursing Degree and started her nursing career at Meadows Manor East, on the east side of Terre Haute. She worked there for a few years; then left when she was hired to be a private duty nurse, by Allen J. Weinhardt, for his wife Ann. After Ann died, Mom went to work at the Vigo County Home where she worked until she became disabled.

In the mid 1980's Dad was working for the Knight of Columbus when he had his first heart attack. It caused damage to his heart, and eventually he had to have angioplasty. He did get better, a little bit at a time, thanks to his cardiologist, Dr. Shantilal S. Patel.

Dad continued to work into the early 1990's. However, by the mid 1990's he was struggling with heart problems again. He continued to work, until he had the second heart attack while trimming tree limbs for someone. This time he suffered more damage to his heart than the first time. His heart became so weak, that he had to have a pacemaker implanted in 1996. At that point, he started receiving disability benefits, and he never worked again.

At some point in the mid to late 1990's, Mom had to go to a nursing home, because of her diabetes and other health problems. For the first few years there, she was still able to go out for several hours at a time, as long as she had her wheelchair. So, I took her to almost all of my sons' football games at South High School, and most of their baseball games. She really enjoyed it, whether they won or lost. I loved to see her happy for a few hours. Just getting away from the nursing home for a few hours was good for her.

In November of 2001, Mom became very ill, and was taken to Regional Hospital. They treated her for an infection in her colon for a while before they thought she was well enough to go back to the nursing home. But, she wasn't well yet; and got worse at the nursing home. By December she was taken back to Regional, where she became septic.

My mother, Joy Julia Crombie, Cooper died on December 18, 2001 at Regional Hospital in Terre Haute. She was seventy years old. She was buried in Bethesda Cemetery in western Vigo County. Her survivors included us four children, seven of her grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren. She is sorely missed to this day.

All of Dad's health problems made him feel so bad, that he often said he didn't want to live anymore. We knew he would have to go to a nursing home sooner or later; but he really got upset when we talked about it. He said he wouldn't be able to live the rest of his life in peace at a nursing home. He wanted to just die in his sleep. Isn't that how we all want to die?

Dad was hospitalized several times before the spring of 2004; and he could no longer take care of himself. We had no other choice but to place him in a nursing home. During his stay there, he went from one hundred seventy-four pounds down to one hundred thirty-some pounds.

Do to a misunderstanding Dad did not have a "Do Not Resuscitate" order. He had wanted to stop breathing in his sleep and slip into death peacefully; but when he stopped breathing in his sleep, late in the evening on August 31, 2004; the nurse checking on him, started CPR, and someone called for an ambulance. The EMT's continued CPR until his heart started beating; and continued to "bag him" or breathe for him by forcing air into his lungs. After he arrived at Regional Hospital's emergency room he was still not breathing on his own. Then he was intubated, placed on a respirator, and taken to the Intensive Care Unit. But, he never got any better.

Some days later, we were told that Dad had little or no brain activity, and he wasn't going to recover. So, they took him off of the respirator; and we were told that he would be taken to a "peaceful room" where we could sit with him until he died. His respirations dropped very low; but he lingered on, because his pacemaker interfered with the dying process. It was agonizing to see him that way.

My father, Bennie Bert Cooper died on September 8, 2004 at Regional Hospital in Terre Haute, Indiana. He was seventy-two years old. He was buried next to his granddaughter, Yvonne, in Roselawn Memorial Park. His survivors included: us four children; six grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; his loving companion Betty Byrley; his sisters, Vernis Vermillion and Lucille Niece; and his brother Gene Cooper.

FRIEDA MAE COOPER, MESAEH, WILLMAN
AND HER HUSBANDS PATRICK MESAEH & JOHN WILLMAN

Frieda Mae Cooper was born on July 1, 1937 at Union Hospital in the city of Terre Haute. She was the eighth and youngest child of Willis Aaron Cooper and Beulah Gladys McFadden, Cooper. She lived with her family on their farm by Sugar Creek, near the Green Valley Coal Mine in Western Vigo County. She attended Concannon School while they lived on the farm.

After Aunt Frieda and her family moved to the city of Terre Haute, she attended McKeen School through the sixth grade, McLean Junior High School through the eighth grade, and Gerstmeyer High School in the ninth grade. Like all of her siblings, she didn't graduate from high school.

Aunt Frieda was working at Davis Gardens in Terre Haute. She was working there, when she met Patrick Joseph Mesaeh, who also worked there. He was born in March of 1937 in Danville, Illinois to Alex and Helen Mesaeh. However, his stepmother, Ada, helped his father raise him. At some point they moved to Terre Haute, and that is where he was raised.

Aunt Frieda and Uncle Pat were married on March 27, 1954 in Vigo County. Their wedding reception took place at her dad's home on Second Avenue, with friends and family in attendance, including my parents. My mom and Aunt Frieda became very close friends; and my dad and Uncle Pat became good friends also.

Aunt Frieda and Uncle Pat's first house was on Dean Avenue in Terre Haute. Their first child, Patricia Jo, was born while they lived there, in October of 1954. Uncle Pat was still working at Davis Gardens, when he joined the United States Army in April of 1955. He was sent to Fort Riley, Kansas for his basic training, and later he was sent to Germany. He came home from Germany, and he was honorably discharged from the Army in February of 1957. At that time, he went to work for Kenley Plastics Company.

In 1958, Uncle Pat went to work for "Quaker Maid" in Terre Haute. During a lay-off he went to work for Inland Steel, in East Chicago, Indiana; and they moved up there. But, after about four months the workers there went on strike. So, they moved back to Terre Haute; and he went back to work at Kenley Plastics, until he was recalled to Quaker Maid.

Aunt Frieda gave birth to their second daughter, Cynthia Lea in September of 1958; and they moved to a house near Davis Park School. Later, they moved to a house on Johnson Avenue, north of the Vigo County Fair grounds. That is where they were living, when Penny Lynn was born in January of 1963.

While still working at Quaker Maid, Uncle Pat joined the Indiana Air Guard; and started working at Camp Atterbury. He worked both jobs until he left Quaker Maid in 1963. But, he continued to work at Camp Atterbury.

Before the school year started in the fall of 1966, Aunt Frieda, Uncle Pat and the girls moved to Franklin, Indiana. The move was necessary because Uncle Pat was working full-time at Camp Atterbury. They lived there for about three years, and Aunt Frieda worked as a nurse's aide at the Johnson County Hospital in Franklin at that time.

Around 1968, while still living in Franklin, Aunt Frieda and Uncle Pat were divorced. She and the girls moved back to Terre Haute sometime before September of 1969, and Aunt Frieda married John Willman at some point in 1969 and they all moved into his house on North Thirty-Fourth Street. While living there, Aunt Frieda gave birth to John Aron Willman, in June of 1970. (His middle name was misspelled on his birth certificate, so it only has one A in it.)

At some point, Aunt Frieda and Uncle John moved the family to Second Avenue. Their house was just four blocks south of the little house that my mom moved into later. She and Aunt Frieda spent a lot of their spare time together, as they had been very good friends since 1954.

Aunt Frieda and Uncle John were eventually divorced; and in 1973, she went to work as a private duty nurse's aide in the home of Mr. Allen J. Weinhardt, where my mom also worked. After Ann Weinhardt died in 1974, Aunt Frieda, as well as my mom, worked at the Vigo County Home.

Aunt Frieda was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1977, and had to have a mastectomy. She also fought other health issues, and wasn't able to work. She later received disability benefits, while she fought several health problems before her untimely death on July 30, 1991. Frieda Mae Cooper, Mesaeh, Willman was only fifty-four when she died. She was buried at Roselawn Memorial Park. Her survivors included: three daughters, one son, four grandsons, four granddaughters, four brothers, three sisters, and a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, nephews, nieces and their families.

This history was compiled by
Linda Cooper, Woodward.
For more information you may
contact me at 812-232-9515.

Cooper Family

ANCESTORS
OF ABNER C. COOPER
& REBECCA McCOY

Take One

PART I
ANCESTORS OF REBECCA McCOY
THE TAYLOR, DAUGHERTY, AND McCOY FAMILIES

According to some sources, including the Internet, everyone named in this section is an ancestor of Rebecca McCoy; who married Abner C. Cooper. Some of them have not been confirmed to be her ancestors. However, I have been able to confirm that Willis McCoy II and Holland Daugherty were her parents; and, Willis McCoy I and his wife Kesiah were her grandparents.

Abraham Taylor Sr. was born around 1661. When he was about twenty-four years old, he married a girl named Jane. Their marriage took place in Virginia, around 1685; and, their son Abraham Taylor Jr. was born that year. His birthplace may have been in Virginia.

Abraham Taylor Jr. married Dinah White when he was about twenty-three years old. Their marriage took place around 1708, in Baltimore County, Maryland. Their son Robert was born on October 13, 1709. His birthplace may have been in Baltimore County.

Abraham Taylor Jr. died in 1751. He was about sixty-six years old. I don't know when Dinah White, Taylor died; or, where she and Abraham were buried.

When Robert Taylor was about twenty years old, he married a girl named Catherine. Their marriage took place around 1729, possibly in Baltimore County, Maryland; or, they may have been married in Craven County, North Carolina. Their son Moses was born in 1729. His birthplace may have been in Craven County.

Robert Taylor died April 15, 1780. He was about seventy-one years old. I don't know when Catherine Taylor died; or, where she and Robert were buried.

Moses Taylor married Elizabeth Prevatte when he was about thirty years old. She was only fifteen. Elizabeth was born around 1744. She was the daughter of Peter and Elizabeth Prevatte.

Moses and Elizabeth's marriage took place around 1759, in New Bern, North Carolina; which is in Craven County. Their daughter Mary was born around 1760. Her birthplace was probably in New Bern.

Moses was a plantation owner. He died around 1819, in Craven County, North Carolina. He was about ninety years old. Elizabeth had been his widow for fourteen years, when she died in 1833. Her death took place in Warren County, Kentucky. I don't know when she moved to Kentucky; or, whom she lived with when she died.

Mary Taylor married Owen Daugherty Jr. when she was about fifteen years old. Owen was about fifty-five; which means he was older than her parents. He was born around 1720, possibly in Ireland. However, some sources indicate that he was born in Craven County, North Carolina. Mary and Owen's marriage may have taken place in Craven County around 1775.

Mary and Owen had a daughter named Holland. She was born on April 6, 1775. Her birthplace was probably in Craven County. She was only ten years old, when her father, Owen Daugherty Jr., died in 1785. He was about sixty-five years old. I don't know when Mary Taylor, Daugherty died; or, where she and Owen were buried.

Holland Daugherty married Willis McCoy II on December 9, 1795. She was about twenty-one years old and he was about twenty-seven. Their marriage took place in New Bern, North Carolina; which is in Craven County.

Willis McCoy II was born in 1768. His birthplace was in New Bern. He was the son of Willis McCoy I, and his wife Kesiah.

> **Willis McCoy I was born between 1732 and 1735. His birthplace may have been in Scotland. He was more than likely the first McCoy, in our family, to immigrate to America.**
>
> **Kesiah was born around 1737. Some sources indicate that she was born in Craven County, North Carolina. She and Willis were married around 1753. They may have been married in Craven County.**
>
> **Willis and Kesiah had nine children between 1756 and 1772. These are the names of those children: William, Edward, Sarah, Betsy, Delaney, Kesiah, John, Hardy and Willis McCoy II.**
>
> **Around 1801, Willis McCoy I died in Craven County. He was between sixty-six and sixty-seven years old. I don't know when Kesiah died, or where she and Willis were buried.**

Willis McCoy II and his wife Holland were living in Craven County, when their daughter Rebecca was born in 1796 or 1797. They had several children. One son was Willis McCoy III. His daughter Hulda B. McCoy married Rebecca's son John Abner Cooper. They were first cousins.

Willis McCoy II was a farmer, or plantation owner, in North Carolina. According to one source, he owned a farm in Virginia. I don't know when he moved his family to Virginia. This source indicates that he sold his farm in Virginia around 1812; and moved his family to Butler County, Kentucky.

Willis owned several slaves, while he and his family lived in Kentucky. By 1850, he was a prosperous farmer, or plantation owner. He died in Butler County on April 8, 1850. He was buried on the old Friday Mayhugh farm, in Butler County. His land, personal property and slaves, were divided among his heirs.

A list of the slaves can be found among the documents pertaining to his estate. The name of each slave is listed; along with the monetary value placed upon them. Among those listed, were the names of two young boys, Caleb and Hiram. Their ages were seven and twelve years. These two boys were grouped together in one "lot". Rebecca McCoy, Cooper and her husband Abner C. Cooper inherited that lot.

I take no pleasure in writing about this nasty, humiliating, part of our family history. I could have left this information out of the history. However, then it wouldn't be an accurate history, would it?

Ancestors of Rebecca McCoy

Chart no. 1

No. 1 on this chart is the same as no. 1 on chart no. 1

1 **Rebecca McCoy**
b. 11 Oct 1796 or 1797
p. Craven Co., NC
m. 7 Oct 1813
p. Logan, Butler Co., KY
d. 24 Jan 1879 (or Jun 24)
p. Clark Co., IL
sp Abner C. Cooper

2 **Willis McCoy II**
b. 1768
p. New Bern, Craven Co., NC
m. 9 Dec 1795
p. New Bern, Craven Co., NC
d. 8 Apr 1850
p. Butler Co., KY

3 **Holland Daugherty**
b. 6 Apr 1775
p. ? Craven Co. ?, NC
d. 17 Aug 1863
p. Butler Co., KY

4 **Willis McCoy I**
b. 1732-1735
p.
m. 1753
p. ? Craven Co. ?, NC
d. 1801
p. Craven Co., NC

5 **Kesiah Unknown**
b. <1737>
p. ? Craven Co. ?, NC
d.
p.

6 **Owen Daugherty**
b. 1720
p. ? Ireland or Craven Co., NC ?
m. 1775
p.
d. 1785
p.

7 **Mary Taylor**
b. 1760
p. ? New Bern?, Craven Co., NC
d.
p.

8
b.
p.
m.
p.
d.
p.

9
b.
p.
d.
p.

10
b.
p.
m.
p.
d.
p.

11
b.
p.
d.
p.

12
b.
p.
m.
p.
d.
p.

13
b.
p.
d.
p.

14 **Moses Taylor**
b. 1729 cont. 2
p. ? Craven Co., NC
m. 1759
p. New Bern, Craven Co., NC
d. 1819
p. Craven Co., NC

15 **Elizabeth Prevatte**
b. 1744
p.
d. 1833
p. Warren Co., KY

Ancestors of Rebecca McCoy

Chart no. 2

No. 1 on this chart is the same as no. 14 on chart no. 1

1 **Moses Taylor**
b. 1729
p. ? Craven Co., NC
m. 1759
p. New Bern, Craven Co., NC
d. 1819
p. Craven Co., NC
sp. Elizabeth Prevatte

2 **Robert Taylor**
b. 13 Oct 1709
p. ? Baltimore Co., MD ?
m. 1729
p. Baltimore Co, MD
d. 15 Apr 1780
p.

3 **Catherine Unknown**
b.
p.
d.
p.

4 **Abraham Taylor Jr.**
b. 1685
p. ? Virginia ?
m. 1708
p. Baltimore Co., MD
d. 1751
p.

5 **Dinah White**
b.
p.
d.
p.

6
b.
p.
m.
p.
d.
p.

7
b.
p.
d.
p.

8 **Abraham Taylor Sr.**
b. 1661
p.
m. 1685
p. Virginia
d.
p.

9 **Jane Unknown**
b.
p.
d.
p.

10
b.
p.
m.
p.
d.
p.

11
b.
p.
d.
p.

12
b.
p.
m.
p.
d.
p.

13
b.
p.
d.
p.

14
b.
p.
m.
p.
d.
p.

15
b.
p.
d.
p.

The Family of Abraham Taylor Sr. & Jane Taylor

Husband	**Abraham Taylor Sr.**	
Born	1661	
Died		
Buried		
Married	1685	Virginia
Wife	**Jane Unknown**	
Born		
Died		
Buried		
Children		
1 **M**	**Abraham Taylor Jr.**	
Born	1685	? Virginia ?
Died	1751	
Buried		
Spouse	Dinah White (-)	1708 - Baltimore Co., MD

The Family of Abraham Taylor Jr. & Dinah White, Taylor

Husband	**Abraham Taylor Jr.**	
Born	1685	? Virginia ?
Died	1751	
Buried		
Father	Abraham Taylor Sr. (1661-)	
Mother	Jane Unknown (-)	
Married	1708	Baltimore Co., MD
Wife	**Dinah White**	
Born		
Died		
Buried		
Children		
1 **M**	**Robert Taylor**	
Born	13 Oct 1709	? Baltimore Co., MD ?
Died	15 Apr 1780	
Buried		
Spouse	Catherine Unknown (-)	1729 - Baltimore Co, MD

The Family of Robert Taylor & Catherine Taylor

Husband	**Robert Taylor**	
Born	13 Oct 1709	? Baltimore Co., MD ?
Died	15 Apr 1780	
Buried		
Father	Abraham Taylor Jr. (1685-1751)	
Mother	Dinah White (-)	
Married	1729	Baltimore Co, MD
Wife	**Catherine Unknown**	
Born		
Died		
Buried		
Children		
1 M	**Moses Taylor**	
Born	1729	? Craven Co., NC
Died	1819	Craven Co., NC
Buried		
Spouse	Elizabeth Prevatte (1744-1833)	1759 - New Bern, Craven Co., NC

The Family of Moses Taylor & Elizabeth Prevatte, Taylor

Husband	**Moses Taylor**	
Born	1729	? Craven Co., NC
Died	1819	Craven Co., NC
Buried		
Father	Robert Taylor (1709-1780)	
Mother	Catherine Unknown (-)	
Married	1759	New Bern, Craven Co., NC
Wife	**Elizabeth Prevatte**	
Born	1744	
Died	1833	Warren Co., KY
Buried		
Children		
1 F	**Mary Taylor**	
Born	1760	? New Bern?, Craven Co., NC
Died		
Buried		
Spouse	Owen Daugherty (1720-1785)	1775

The Family of Mary Taylor, Daugherty & Owen Daugherty Jr.

Husband	**Owen Daugherty**		
Born	1720	? Ireland or Craven Co., NC ?	
Died	1785		
Buried			
Married	1775		
Wife	**Mary Taylor**		
Born	1760	? New Bern?, Craven Co., NC	
Died			
Buried			
Father	Moses Taylor (1729-1819)		
Mother	Elizabeth Prevatte (1744-1833)		
Children			
1 F	**Holland Daugherty**		
Born	6 Apr 1775	? Craven Co. ?, NC	
Died	17 Aug 1863	Butler Co., KY	
Buried			
Spouse	Willis McCoy II (1768-1850)	9 Dec 1795 - New Bern, Craven Co., NC	

Willis McCoy II & Holland Daugherty, McCoy & Two of Their Children

Husband	**Willis McCoy II**	
Born	1768	New Bern, Craven Co., NC
Died	8 Apr 1850	Butler Co., KY
Buried		
Father	Willis McCoy I (1732-1801)	
Mother	Kesiah Unknown (1737-)	
Married	9 Dec 1795	New Bern, Craven Co., NC
Wife	**Holland Daugherty**	
Born	6 Apr 1775	? Craven Co. ?, NC
Died	17 Aug 1863	Butler Co., KY
Buried		
Father	Owen Daugherty (1720-1785)	
Mother	Mary Taylor (1760-)	
Children		
1 F	**Rebecca McCoy**	
Born	11 Oct 1796 or 1797	Craven Co., NC
Died	24 Jan 1879 (or Jun 24)	Clark Co., IL
Buried		
2 M	**Willis McCoy III**	
Born		
Died		
Buried		

The Family of Willis McCoy I & Kesiah McCoy

Husband		**Willis McCoy I**	
Born		1732-1735	
Died		1801	Craven Co., NC
Buried			
Married		1753	? Craven Co. ?, NC
Wife		**Kesiah Unknown**	
Born		<1737>	? Craven Co. ?, NC
Died			
Buried			
Children			
1	M	**Willis McCoy II**	
Born		1768	New Bern, Craven Co., NC
Died		8 Apr 1850	Butler Co., KY
Buried			
Spouse		Holland Daugherty (1775-1863)	9 Dec 1795 - New Bern, Craven Co., NC
2	M	**William McCoy**	
Born			
Died			
Buried			
Spouse			
3	M	**Edward McCoy**	
Born			
Died			
Buried			
Spouse			
4	F	**Sarah McCoy**	
Born			
Died			
Buried			
Spouse			
5	F	**Betsy McCoy**	
Born			
Died			
Buried			
Spouse			

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The Family of Willis McCoy I & Kesiah McCoy

Children (cont.)			
6	**M**	**Delaney McCoy**	
Born			
Died			
Buried			
Spouse			
7	**F**	**Kesiah McCoy**	
Born			
Died			
Buried			
Spouse			
8	**M**	**John McCoy**	
Born			
Died			
Buried			
Spouse			
9	**M**	**Hardy McCoy**	
Born			
Died			
Buried			
Spouse			

PART II
ANCESTORS OF ABNER C. COOPER

Some sources, including the Internet, indicate that the persons named in this section are the ancestors of Abner C. Cooper. I believe that there is sufficient evidence to support these claims. However, I can't say that this information has been confirmed.

Some dates and places, pertaining to the lives of these people, may not be exact. I would never finish this project, if I waited until I have the exact details.

MARCOME & SARAH COOPER

Marcome Cooper was born around 1699, in Warwickshire, England. He may have been the first of our Cooper ancestors to immigrate to America. It is thought that they came to America to be fur traders.

When Marcome was about twenty-six years old, he married a girl named Sarah. Their marriage took place around 1725, possibly in Warwickshire, England. However, some sources indicate that they were married in the state of Virginia, or Spartanburg, South Carolina.

I don't know when or where Marcome and Sarah died, or where they were buried.

DAVID D. COOPER & ELIZABETH WILDER, COOPER

Marcome and Sarah's son, David D. Cooper, was born between 1725 and 1726. His birthplace may have been in Warwickshire, England also. He, instead of his father, may have been the first to immigrate to America. However, he may have been born in the state of Virginia, or Spartanburg, South Carolina.

David married Elizabeth Wilder, sometime between 1747 and 1751. Their marriage may have taken place in Wake County, North Carolina. However, it is possible that they were married in the state of Virginia, or Spartanburg, South Carolina.

David and Elizabeth's marriage was very fruitful. They had eleven, or twelve children by 1773; one of which did not survive. I think some of their children were born in Wake County, North Carolina; and, some were born in Spartanburg, South Carolina.

These are the names of nine of their children: Rebah (Rehab), Marcum (Marcom, Marcome), William, Charity, Malichi (Malichia, Maliki), Orphas (Orpha, Orpah), Elizabeth, Edward and John Cotton Cooper. We are John's descendants. The child that didn't survive was unnamed; and, the other two names were Barome and Sion. I think they could actually be the same person.

At some point, David and Elizabeth moved to an area on Thicketty Creek; or an area named Thicketty Creek. Their daughter Orphas and her family moved to that area sometime before 1790.

David D. Cooper died in Spartanburg, South Carolina around March 17, 1792. He was about sixty-seven years old. His will was drawn up and signed on that day. According to the will, he owned a fair amount of personal property, livestock, horses, and one slave.

In the will, the female slave is referred to as "one Negro woman named Pal". David gave her to his wife Elizabeth. He also gave Elizabeth: one feather bed and furniture (here furniture means the bed frame and headboard), one gray mare and colt, two cows and calves, household furniture and kitchen furniture.

This is how David's other possessions were distributed among his children. He gave Rebah one feather bed and furniture, one white horse, two cows and calves, one heifer and one Iron Pot, which he had already "intrusted-her with at her marriage." Marcum was to have three head of sheep, which he already had. That was all he was to have from his father's estate. Marcum evidently was not the favorite child! William would receive one feather bed and furniture, one gray mare, and two cows and calves, which he already had. David gave John one feather bed and furniture, two cows and calves, a heifer, and one bay mare, which he already had. Charity received one feather bed and furniture and one cow, which she already had. Orphas would get one feather bed and furniture and two cows and one calf, which she already had. Sion was given one bay horse, bridle and saddle, which he already had; two cows and two calves, which he recently received; and two heifers, which he was to receive. Malichi received one bay horse, bridle and saddle; and a rifle, which he already had. David's daughter Elizabeth was given one black mare, one feather bed and furniture, two cows and calves, and one flax wheel. Remember, after their mother dies, she would also divide equally with her brother Edward, "all that remains of the lent property" that their mother had. Edward would also receive one feather bed and furniture, three young horses, two cows and calves, one rifle and some money. The "13 pounds, seven shillings Virginia money" he was to receive, was in the hands of John Cooper.

David appointed Malichi to be the executor of his will. He also revoked and made void, all other former wills signed, and bequests made by him. He acknowledged this to be his last will and testament published, announced, ratified and confirmed. The will was signed, sealed and acknowledged on the seventeenth day of March, in the year of the Lord Christi, one thousand, seven-hundred and ninety-two, in the presence of Obediah Turner, Obediah Watson and Daniel Ledbetter. I guess "Obediah" was a really common name at that time! Evidently David had not learned to read and write, because he signed his will with an "X" for his mark.

Here is the tally I get for David's estate. He had the home and land, which he may have still owed a mortgage on. These are the "critters" he had: four mares, six horses, seventeen cows, fifteen calves, four heifers, and three sheep. He also had two saddles, two bridles and two rifles. Household items included: one flax wheel, and an Iron Pot. I don't know why the words "Iron Pot" were capitalized; perhaps the Iron Pot was very valuable at that time. David's home furnishings included: kitchen and household furniture, eight feather beds with frames and headboards; and one human being, a Negro woman named "Pal." How ironic it is, that her name was "Pal." I wonder how many of our 'pals' would like for us to own them?

As you can see, by my phraseology, I hate that a human being could be "owned" by another human being. However, we are talking about the late 1700's. At that time, even the best of men had slaves. They thought God condoned slavery. So, we must forgive our ancestors for their ignorance.

Elizabeth Wilder, Cooper did in 1797. However, I don't know where she and David are buried.

JOHN COTTEN COOPER & NANCY ARNOLD, COOPER

John Cotton Cooper was born between 1754 and 1758 in Spartanburg, South Carolina. David and Elizabeth were his parents. His first wife's name was Josephine. I have no further information about her or that marriage.

John married his second wife, Nancy Arnold, around 1775. I'm not sure where Nancy was living when they met; or where they were married. Perhaps John traveled to Kentucky from Spartanburg, and met and married Nancy while in Kentucky. One source indicates they were married there. However, they returned to South Carolina, because seven of their fourteen children were born there.

The names of Nancy and John's children were: Thomas, David, Zachariah, Rhoda (Rody), Cader, Sarah, Charity, Elizabeth, Isaac, Rebecca, Winnefrey (Winnefray), Marcom (Marcome, Marcum), Eady, and Abner C. Cooper. We are Abner's descendants.

At some point, John and Nancy moved to Mississippi. According to one source, they were probably part of a group of families that followed a migration from the Carolinas into Kentucky, Alabama and Mississippi.

John Cotton Cooper died before May 25, 1829 in Monroe County, Mississippi. He was at least seventy years old. He had his last will and testament drawn up on April 1, 1829. John Greenlee and James Hackleman were witnesses at the signing of the will. John's son, Isaac Cooper, was appointed the Executor of the will. An Administrator's Bond was issued to him on May 25, 1829.

John bequeathed to his wife Nancy: two feather beds, one half of all the household and kitchen furniture, one cow called Big Brindle and her yearling calf, and all the new cloth in his possession.

A receipt from Lounds County, Mississippi, which was signed by Nancy Cooper, by her mark and witnessed by Vardy McBee, James Snell Sr. and John Greenlee, was recorded on April 15, 1830. The items she received from her son Isaac, ADM. of John C. Cooper, deceased, late of Monroe County were: two feather beds and bedsteads, one cow called Big Brindle and her yearling calf, and all the new clothing in his possession, thirty bed covers, eight webs of cloth, one lot of spun yearn and one flax wheel. The receipt did not mention the household and kitchen furniture John bequeathed her.

John gave and bequeathed to all of his children, except Cader and Isaac, the sum of one dollar. Cader was given and bequeathed: one feather bed. Isaac was given and bequeathed: two horses, one black and the other a bay, all of John's cattle and hogs, except for the cow and calf given to Nancy, the farming utensils, one half of the household and kitchen furniture, two feather beds and one bedstead. He was also given all of John's debts, dues and demands.

Ancestors of Abner C. Cooper

Chart no. 1

No. 1 on this chart is the same as no. 1 on chart no. 1

1 **Abner C. Cooper**
b. 1792
p. Spartanburg, SC
m. 7 Oct 1813
p. Logan, Butler Co., KY
d. Jan or Feb 1854
p. Clark Co., IL
sp. Rebecca McCoy

2 **John Cotten Cooper**
b. 1754-1758
p. Spartanburg, SC
m. Abt 1775
p. ? Kentucky ?
d. < 25 May 1829
p. Monroe Co., MS

3 **Nancy Arnold**
b.
p.
d.
p.

4 **David D. Cooper**
b. 1725-1726
p. ? Warwickshire, England or Virginia~
m. 1747-1751
p. ? Wake Co., NC or Virginia, or Spar~
d. Abt 17 Mar 1792
p. Spartanburg, SC

5 **Elizabeth Wilder**
b. 1726-1730
p. Old Edgecombe, NC
d. 1797
p.

6
b.
p.
m.
p.
d.
p.

7
b.
p.
d.
p.

8 **Marcome Cooper**
b. 1699
p. Warwickshire, England
m. Abt 1725
p. ? Warwickshire, England, or Virginia~
d.
p.

9 **Sarah Unknown**
b.
p.
d.
p.

10
b.
p.
m.
p.
d.
p.

11
b.
p.
d.
p.

12
b.
p.
m.
p.
d.
p.

13
b.
p.
d.
p.

14
b.
p.
m.
p.
d.
p.

15
b.
p.
d.
p.

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Marcome Cooper & His Family

Husband	**Marcome Cooper**	
Born	1699	Warwickshire, England
Died		
Buried		
Married	Abt 1725	? Warwickshire, England, or Virginia, or SC ?
Wife	**Sarah Unknown**	
Born		
Died		
Buried		
Children		
1 **M**	**David D. Cooper**	
Born	1725-1726	
Place	? Warwickshire, England or Virginia, or Spartanburg, SC. ?	
Died	Abt 17 Mar 1792	Spartanburg, SC
Buried		
Spouse	Elizabeth Wilder (1726-1797)	
Marr. Date	1747-1751 - ? Wake Co., NC or Virginia, or Spartanburg, SC ?	

The Family of David D. Cooper & Elizabeth Wilder, Cooper

Husband	**David D. Cooper**	
Born	1725-1726	
Place	? Warwickshire, England or Virginia, or Spartanburg, SC. ?	
Died	Abt 17 Mar 1792	Spartanburg, SC
Buried		
Father	Marcome Cooper (1699-)	
Mother	Sarah Unknown (-)	
Married	1747-1751	? Wake Co., NC or Virginia, or Spartanburg, SC ?
Wife	**Elizabeth Wilder**	
Born	1726-1730	Old Edgecombe, NC
Died	1797	
Buried		
Children		
1 F	**Rebah (Rehab) Cooper**	
Born	1748-1752	Spartanburg Co., SC
Died		
Buried		
Spouse	Godfrey Fowler (-)	
2 M	**Marcome (Marcom, Marcum) Cooper**	
Born	1750	? Virginia ?
Died		
Buried		
Spouse		
3 F	**Charity Cooper**	
Born	1751-1760	? North Carolina ?
Died	1777	
Buried		
Spouse	John Wilmuth (Abt 1755-)	
4 M	**John Cotten Cooper**	
Born	1754-1758	Spartanburg Co., SC
Died	< 25 May 1829	Monroe Co., MS
Buried		
Spouse	Nancy Arnold (-)	Abt 1775 - ? Kentucky ?
5 M	**Barome (could be Sion) Cooper**	
Born	1754	Spartanburg Co., SC
Died		
Buried		
Spouse		

continued on next page

David D. Cooper & His Family

Children (cont.)		
6	**M**	**William Cooper**
Born	1756	Spartanburg Co., SC or ? Virginia ?
Died		
Buried		
Spouse		
7	**F**	**Orphas (Orpha, Orpah) Cooper**
Born	1758-1764	Wake Co., NC
Died	1832-1835	
Buried		
Spouse	Daniel Amos Sr. (1755-1832)	
8	**M**	**Sion (could be Barome) Cooper**
Born	1760	
Died		
Buried		
Spouse		
9	**M**	**Malichi (Malichia, Maliki) Cooper**
Born	14 Apr 1762	Wake Co., NC
Died	Oct 1843	Pulaski Co., KY
Buried		
Spouse	Ann or Anna Wilkerson (1764-)	
Spouse	Lucretia Blevins (-)	
10	**F**	**Elizabeth Cooper**
Born	1764-1771	North Carolina
Died	20 Oct 1850	
Buried		
Spouse	Joseph Byers (Byars) (-)	
11	**M**	**Unnamed Child Cooper**
Born	Abt 1769	North Carolina
Died		
Buried		
Spouse		
12	**M**	**Edward Cooper**
Born	17 May 1773	North Carolina
Died	1840	
Buried		
Spouse		

The Family of John Cotten Cooper & Nancy Arnold, Cooper

Husband	**John Cotten Cooper**	
Born	1754-1758	Spartanburg Co., SC
Died	< 25 May 1829	Monroe Co., MS
Buried		
Father	David D. Cooper (1725-Abt 1792)	
Mother	Elizabeth Wilder (1726-1797)	
Married	Abt 1775	? Kentucky ?
Wife	**Nancy Arnold**	
Born		
Died		
Buried		
Children		
1 F	**Eady Cooper**	
Born		
Died		
Buried		
Spouse	Unknown Givens (-)	
2 F	**Charity Cooper**	
Born		
Died		
Buried		
Spouse	Unknown Hester (Horster) (-)	
3 F	**Elizabeth "Betsy" Cooper**	
Born		
Died		
Buried		
Spouse	Unknown Byers (Byars) (-)	
4 M	**Isaac Cooper**	
Born		
Died		
Buried		
Spouse	Mary Valentine (-)	21 May 1810 - Mason Co., KY
5 F	**Sarah Cooper**	
Born		
Died		
Buried		
Spouse	Unknown Morgan (-)	

continued on next page

John C. Cooper & His Family

Children (cont.)

6	**F**	**Rebecca Cooper**	
Born			
Died			
Buried			
Spouse		Unknown Logan (-)	
7	**F**	**Winnefrey (Winnefray) Cooper**	
Born			
Died			
Buried			
Spouse		Robert Byars (Byers) (1785-)	
8	**M**	**Marcom (Marcome, Marcum) Cooper**	
Born			
Died			
Buried			
Spouse			
9	**M**	**Thomas Cooper**	
Born		1776	South Carolina
Died			
Buried			
Spouse		Rebecca Unknown (-)	
10	**M**	**Zachariah Cooper**	
Born		1783	South Carolina
Died		23 Sep 1850	Morgan Co., AL
Buried			
Spouse		Mary Ann Quinn (1785-1857)	1804 or 1805 - Spartanburg Co., SC
11	**M**	**David Cooper**	
Born		1790	
Died			
Buried			
Spouse		Elizabeth Alexander (-)	1810 - Cristian Co., KY
12	**M**	**Abner C. Cooper**	
Born		1792	Spartanburg Co., SC
Died		Jan or Feb 1854	Clark Co., IL
Buried			
Spouse		Rebecca McCoy (1796-1879)	7 Oct 1813 - Logan, Butler Co., KY

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John C. Cooper & His Family

Children (cont.)			
13	**F**	**Rhoda (Rody) Cooper**	
Born		1795	
Died			
Buried			
Spouse		Allen Givens (1760-1856)	
14	**M**	**Cader Cooper**	
Born		26 Apr 1796	South Carolina
Died		22 Sep 1842	Talladega, AL
Buried			
Spouse		Sarah Byars (Byers) (1799-1864)	24 Dec 1816 - Christian Co., KY